

Condé Nast Traveler

NOVEMBER 2015 £4.10

104

AMAZING BARS &
RESTAURANTS
AROUND THE WORLD

MOROCCO'S
MOST BEAUTIFUL
HIDEOUT

+ THE BEST
COUNTRY-HOUSE
SPAS IN BRITAIN

Chasing the winter sun
BEACH LIFE IN THE CARIBBEAN

CAPE TOWN
OUR INSIDER'S
SHOPPING GUIDE



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WORDS BY GABRIELLA LE BRETON

PRODUCED BY

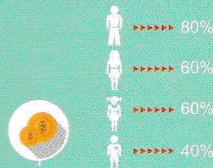
Condé Nast
Traveller
PROMOTIONS



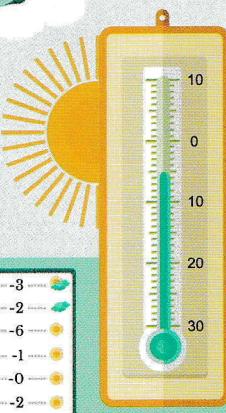
INTRODUCTION

As the nights draw in, winter is preparing to drape her snowy cloak over the Alps. This means one great thing: it's time to get your skis on! As much as we love halcyon summer days lounging on beaches, we never fail to get excited by the first nip in the air that says winter is on its way. Those crisp autumn mornings herald days spent swooshing down ski slopes under cerulean mountain skies and evenings passed sipping vin chaud by roaring fires. Treat yourself to a ski holiday and winters become magical once again as you embrace the cold from your cocoon of down, cashmere and GoreTex. Where else is it entirely acceptable to make

snow angels in your 30s, dance on tables in your ski boots, or fall hopelessly in lust with your ski instructor (even though you're a married mother of three)? Whether you mix up ski days with restorative spa treatments, go extreme and bag a helicopter, or introduce your children to the healthy habit of a lifetime, there's a ski holiday out there just waiting for you.



Mon	-3	80%
Tue	-2	80%
Wed	-6	60%
Thu	-1	60%
Fri	0	60%
Sat	-2	40%
Sun	-4	40%

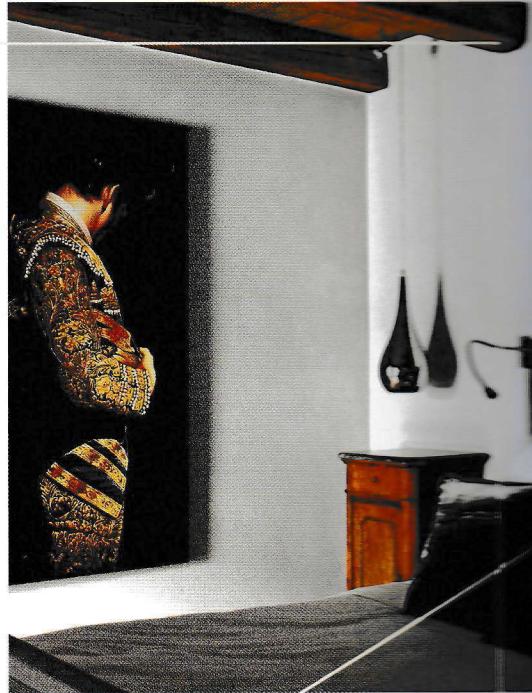


TRAVELLER PROMOTION

CHALET GENTIANES, COURCHEVEL

Looking at Chalet Gentianes, you wouldn't know that space comes at a premium in Courchevel; the vast timber and stone chalet is nestled amidst dense forest and comes with seven en-suite bedrooms, a private cinema, spectacular indoor pool, hot tub, steam room and gym. Despite the chalet's sense of splendid isolation, you can ski straight out of the boot room onto the slopes and stroll into Courchevel in under five minutes, although obviously there's a driver to whizz you into town if you've exhausted your legs on the slopes.

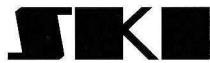
courchevelprestigechalets.com:
0033 662 998029



PINE LODGE, SELVA GARDENA

The freshly-completed Pine Lodge was built to the exacting standards of an Anglo-Italian husband and wife team in the stylish Italian resort of Selva Gardena. With his background in hotels and hers in interior design, you can expect flawless service from your concierge team and chef, a wellness area complete with indoor infinity pool, and sophisticated interiors. The four en-suite bedrooms and large living area showcase works from local artists and afford unbroken views of the Dolomites. Selva Gardena's lifts and family-friendly nursery slopes are just two minutes' walk from the lodge.

carrier.co.uk; 0161 492 1359



SEASON
2016

*Ski in,
ski out*

LE PASHMINA, VAL THORENS

This December, the high-altitude resort of Val Thorens welcomes its fourth five-star hotel in four years: Le Pashmina. The property is owned by the Gorinis, ski instructors who moved to Val Thorens in its infancy, and reflects their passion for the outdoors with rooms, suites and apartments featuring local materials, wood-fire stoves and mountain photography. We can't wait to try the Igloo-Pod, a heated geodesic dome up on the roof. Decorated like a snug Mongolian yurt, it has a transparent canopy so you can sleep under the stars.

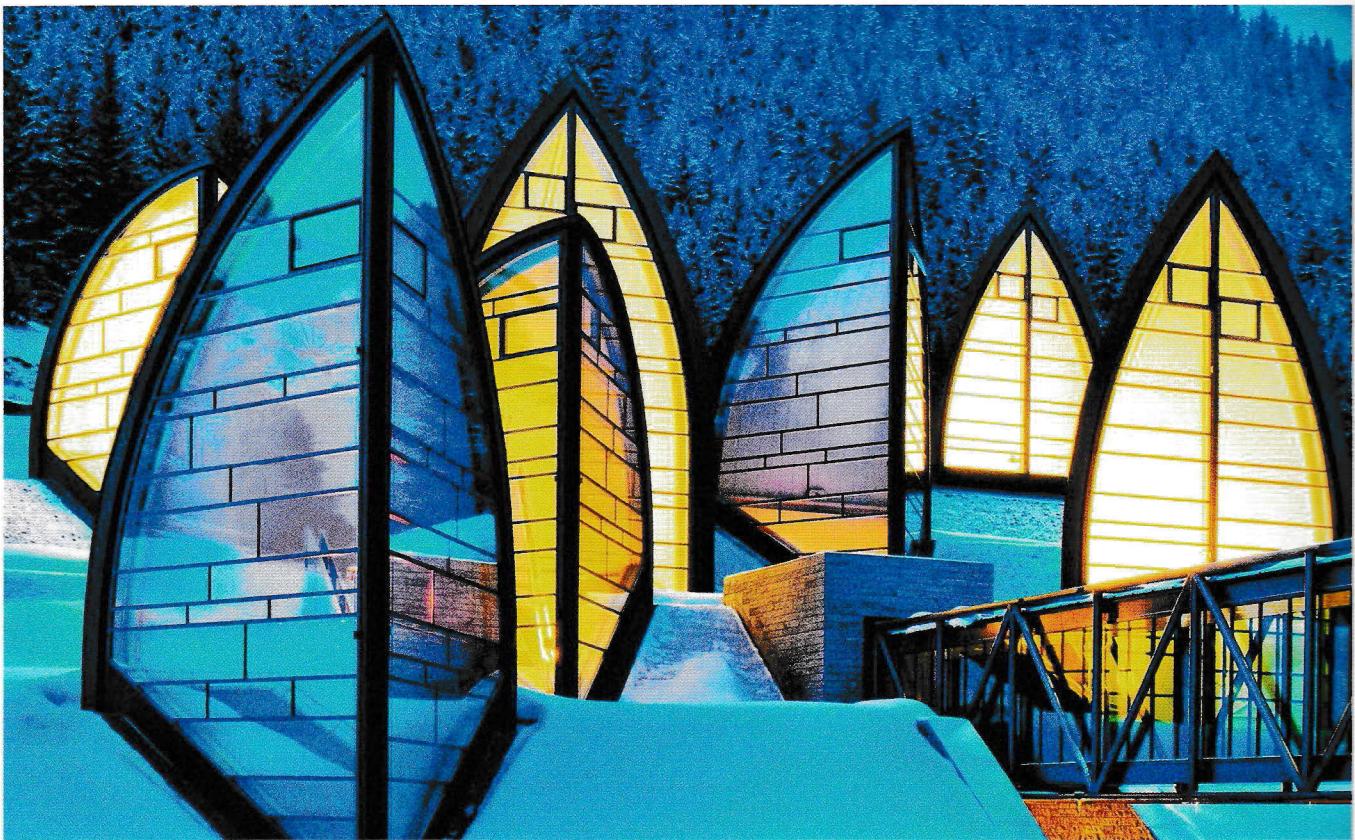
crystalski.co.uk; 020 8939 0726

BAITA 1697, SESTRIERE

Luxury catered chalets in Italy are surprisingly rare, making the five en-suite bedroom Baita 1697 all the more precious. A restored 17th-Century farmhouse, this gem is tucked away in a medieval hamlet, Pragelato, near the popular resort of Sestriere. The chalet's vaulted stables house a cosy living and dining area while the hay loft has been transformed into another rustic-chic living room. A cable car located across the road whisks you up into Sestriere's extensive ski area – just remember your green cross code when you ski back home!

oxfordski.com; 01993 899 420





CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE:
TSCHUGGEN GRAND HOTEL
IN AROSA; BÜNDNERSTUBE
RESTAURANT AT TSCHUGGEN
GRAND HOTEL; DOUBLE
ROOM AT TSCHUGGEN;
THE TSCHUGGEN EXPRESS

flights, luxury transfers and accommodation in hand-picked properties across the Alps and also offer a 24/7 in-resort concierge service and complimentary ski guiding. Even the most reticent of young skiers will come away inspired and ready to train for the Olympics, whilst parents will feel free to get in as much action (or après ski!) as they like. Wonderful.

AROSA



The Swiss resort of Arosa, one of Europe's highest ski villages, is a perennial PB family favourite thanks to its sunny, snow-sure blue and red ski slopes. Hunkered down amidst pine trees at the end of the Schanfigg Valley, the secluded town is now linked by chairlifts to neighbouring

Lenzerheide. Explore the area from the sumptuous

comfort of the striking Carlo Rampazzi-designed Tschuggen Grand Hotel, which operates its very own lift up to the ski area. The hotel spa was designed by star architect Mario Botta and is a paradise for the senses, with matching harmonious setting. powderbyrne.com; 020 8246 5300



POWDER BYRNE



Launched in 1985, Original Skiing was launched by Rory Byrne with the aim of creating bespoke skiing experiences for passionate skiers. Since then, it has evolved into Powder Byrne, and, with the arrival of his own children, Rory has adapted the company to also cater brilliantly for families. By combining a love of skiing and exceptional service with the needs of families, Powder Byrne is now the go-to holiday company for adventure-loving parents and children alike. No matter how old your children are, you'll find an age appropriate option for ski childcare, choose from: the pb crèche starts at 4 months - 3 years, the Yetis are 4-9 years old, SnoZone is 10-14 years and the pb Ski Academy takes 14-17 years old. Taking the stress out of the trip, Powder Byrne will also organise your

SKI
SEASON
2016



1. LAMB SHEARLING JACKET, £2,505, ARMANI.COM 2. SKI GOGGLES, £268, CHANEL.COM 3. KNITTED CASHMERE SOCKS, £225, BURBERRY.COM 4. CANADA GOOSE CHILLIWACK BOMBER JACKET, £625, AVAILABLE AT HARRODS 5. INTERNATIONAL EXPANDABLE 4 WHEELED CARRY-ON, £645.00 UK.TUMI.COM 6. KIDS CRINCHON SNOWSUIT, £550, MONCLER.COM

TRAVELLER PROMOTION



LES CHAETS D'ANGÈLE, CHÂTEL

Thanks to French ski specialist Peak Retreats, it's time to rethink self-catered Alpine accommodation. Gone are the days of cramped little flats, we're talking spacious apartments with up to four bedrooms, designer kitchens and an in-house spa and pools. Les Chalets d'Angèle apartments are a short shuttle ride from central Châtel and even closer to the lifts, which usher you into the Portes du Soleil ski area. Despite boasting 400 miles of varied pistes in France and Switzerland, this region flies under the radar of many skiers, leaving all the more snow for you.

peakretreats.com; 0844 576 0170



CLUB MED, VALMOREL

As much as we adore them, children plus ski holidays can equal logistical challenges... hand over the reins to Club Med, however, and all becomes simple. Club Med packages up flights, transfers, full board, childcare, entertainment, ski passes and tuition meaning all you have to do is pack up the family and enjoy the holiday. Plump for the atmospheric resort of Valmorel and you'll find gentle blue and green runs, two children-specific ski zones, a family snowzone and a lively pedestrianised high street.

clubmed.co.uk; 020 3811 1507



SEASON
2016

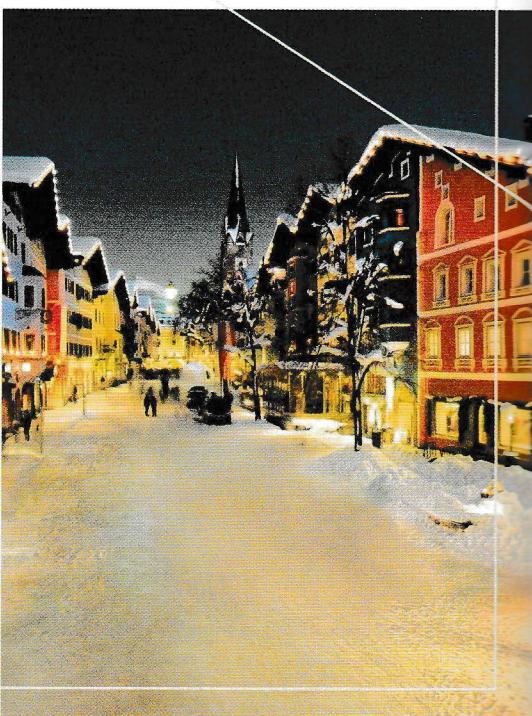
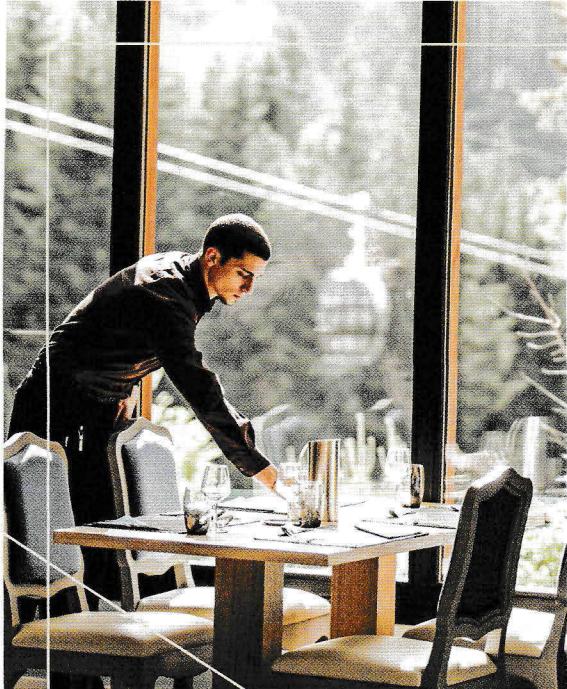
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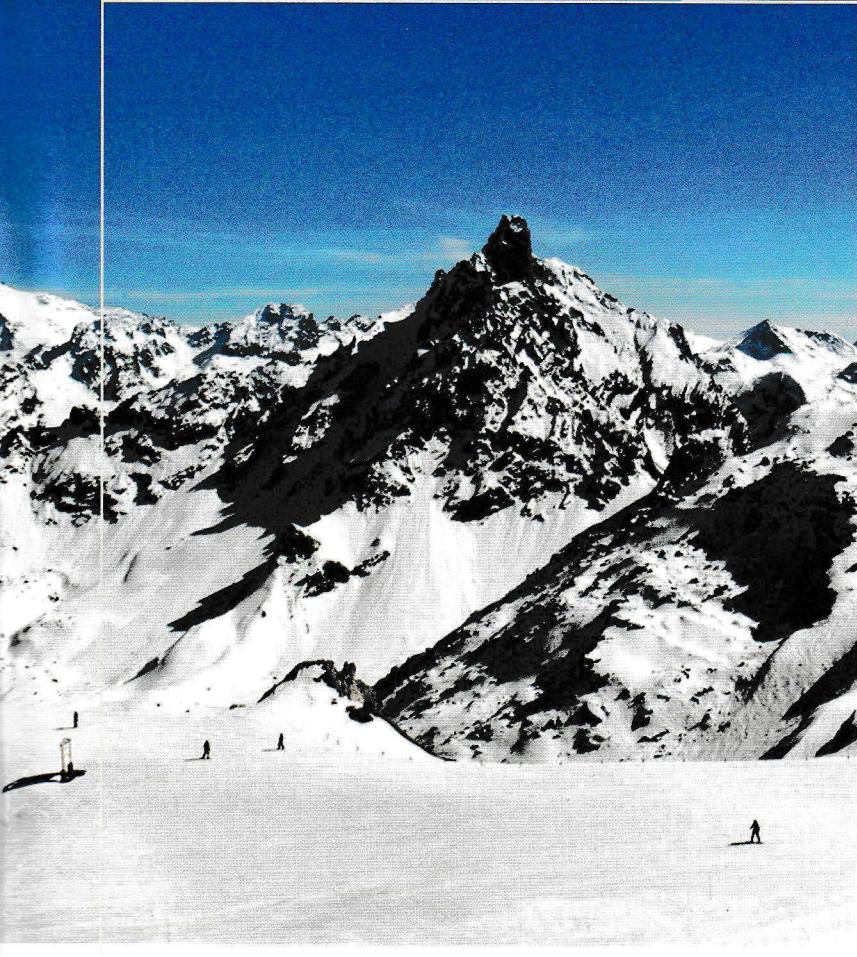
HOTEL ZUR TENNE, KITZBÜHEL

With its cobbled streets and crooked medieval buildings, Kitzbühel (Kitz to those in the know) is the picture of winter charm. The family-owned Hotel Zur Tenne, which dates back to 1543, takes pride of place in the old town, offering genuine Tyrolean hospitality in grand country house style. The mountains surrounding Kitz are perfect for families with gentle runs meandering through trees and child-safe terrain parks for budding Jenny Joneses. Enrol your little ones in the Rote Teufel (Red Devil) ski school's race training camp and they'll learn from, and even race against, former downhill racer Patrick Hinterseer. ernalow.co.uk; 0207 584 2841

CHALET JEJALP, MORZINE

The pretty village of Morzine first established itself as a family favourite in the 1920s, when visitors came from nearby Geneva to skate on its frozen lake and ski on its rolling pastures. Now, plush new chalets are confirming its place in the luxury market too. Chalet Jejalp is the latest addition: a central atrium features a glass wine tower spanning four floors, there's a fully-stocked bar by the cinema room and pool table, and the spa boasts floor-to-ceiling windows. Sleeping 10 adults in en-suite doubles and four children in a cosy bunk room, Chalet Jejalp will delight little and big kids in equal measure. consensiochalets.co.uk;
020 3393 0833





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
THE EXTENSIVE SKI AREA OF COURCHEVEL; KIDS REVEL IN THE SPACE AT THE PARK CITY MEGA RESORT IN UTAH;
CHAIRLIFT IN A UTAH SUNSET;
WHITE 1921 IN COURCHEVEL;
PARTY TIME IN VAL D'ISÈRE

VAL DE PARTY

There's only one place to start the end of your ski day in Val d'Isère: La Folie Douce. Set on the slopes above town, the infamous establishment kicks off from 3pm, as champagne-quaffing lunch guests finish off their foie gras burgers. Expect an exuberant cabaret show, live DJs, singers, musicians and lots of ski boot dancing. In town there's more raucous après-ski at Dick's Tea Bar, home to toffee vodka-fuelled ski bums since 1979, Cocorico and Le Graal. For something a bit more chilled, pop into Le Jack or the Avenue Lodge before live jazz in the After Dinner Club at Dick's Tea Bar.

fishandpipes.co.uk: 01483 421 777

SKI
SEASON
2016

Apres
ski

1. CHANEL HYDRA BEAUTY MICRO SERUM, £66.00, CHANEL.COM 2. CARRERA 5003 ST SUNGLASSES, £99, CARRERAWORLD.COM 3. BARRY BOOTS, £995.00, JIMMYCHOOCOM 4. BLACK PLEATED HIGH NECK DRESS, £590, WTRLONDON.COM 5. LAMBSWOOL PONCHO, £120, GANT.CO.UK



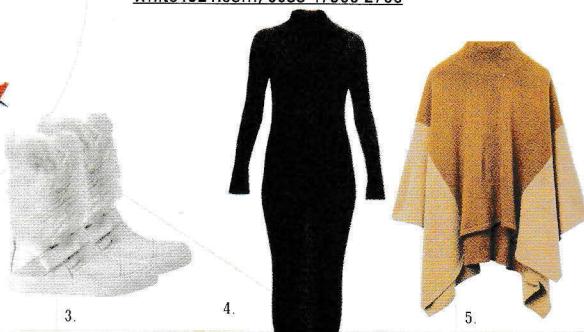
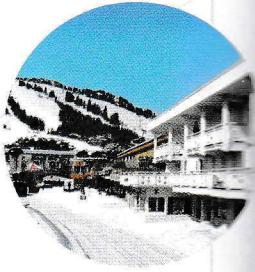
BIG IS BEAUTIFUL

Knocking Vail off the number one spot, the newly joined Utah resorts of Park City and Canyons are now the largest single resort in the States. Known simply as Park City, the new mega resort will offer over 7,300 acres of ski terrain, plenty to entertain any skier for at least a month, all cloaked in Utah's famously dry and fluffy snow. Handily located 45 minutes' drive from Salt Lake City airport, you can also ski straight into Park City, which is packed with Old West charm, fabulous hotels and cosmopolitan restaurants, bars and galleries. parkcitymountain.com; 0131 516 4026

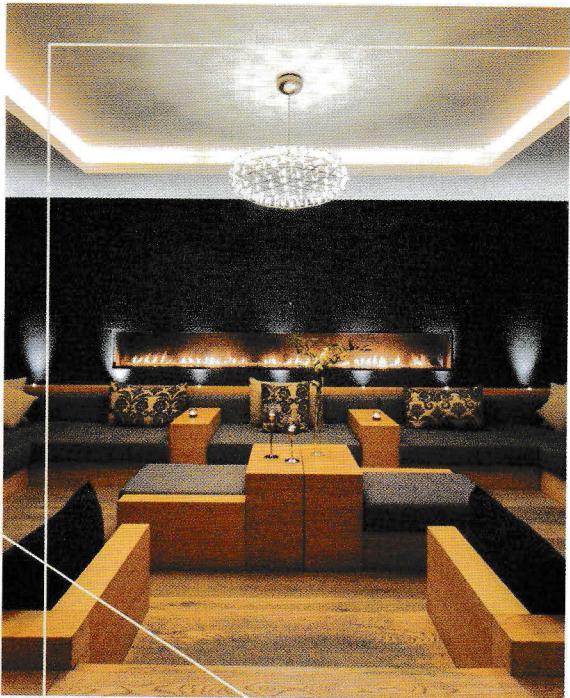


WHITE HOT COURCHEVEL

For all its excess, Courchevel's après-ski scene appears – at first glance – to be kept on the backburner. Look closely, however, and you'll find glamorous ski bunnies basking in the afternoon sun on Le Portetta's terrace, sipping cocktails in Cheval Blanc's fire-warmed White Bar and kicking back with a vin chaud in Le Strato's Ski Bar. Get past the doormen at Le Mangeoire and you'll see the hip restaurant transform into a Cristal-spraying nightclub while Les Caves and Le Kudeta offer all-out nightclub glamour. Opening this December in Courchevel 1850, the boutique hotel White 1921 is the sister property of St Tropez's celebrated Champagne Bar and promises to be the hottest ticket in town. white1921.com; 0033 47900 2700



TRAVELLER PROMOTION



KEEPING UP WITH CHEMMY IN VERBIER

Fancy learning from one of Britain's skiing greats? Four-times Winter Olympian Chemmy Alcott is hosting an On & Off-Piste Ski Weekend in Verbier this winter with her pal Bella, a former pro freerider and qualified instructor. Expect the dynamic duo to push you on and off the mountain: Chemmy will whip you into piste shape, Bella will help you crack the off-piste and they'll both whisk you round Verbier's hottest lunch and night spots. Recharge your batteries by staying in Zen comfort at the Hotel Nevaï.

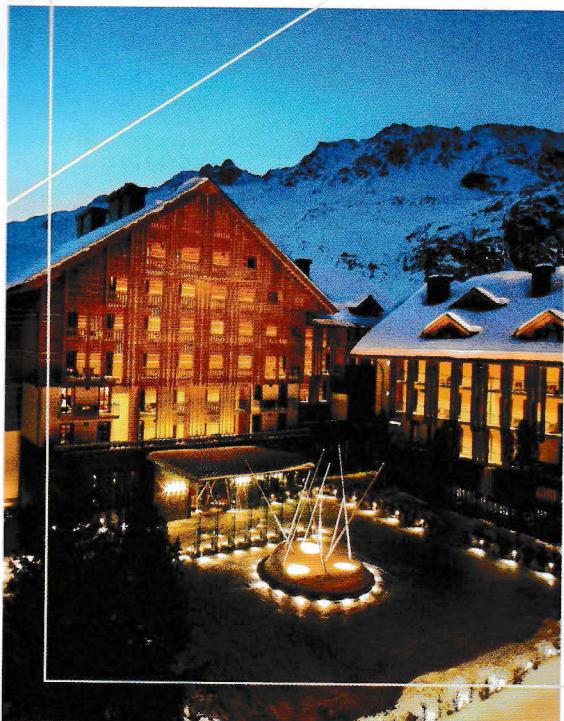
alsprivate.com: 0203 750 0234;
hotelnevai.com



WINDS OF CHANGE IN ANDERMATT

When The Chedi launched in Andermatt two winters ago, it brought unprecedented levels of luxury to the sleepy Swiss town. Long the haunt of skiers for whom the importance of fresh powder outweighed the need for fresh sheets, Andermatt now offers challenging skiing and 1,000 thread count Egyptian cotton. Not that you need a reason to blend awesome skiing with luxury but this season will see a hotly-anticipated new chairlift open, the first of several planned for the blossoming resort.

ghmhotels.com: 0041 41 888 7488



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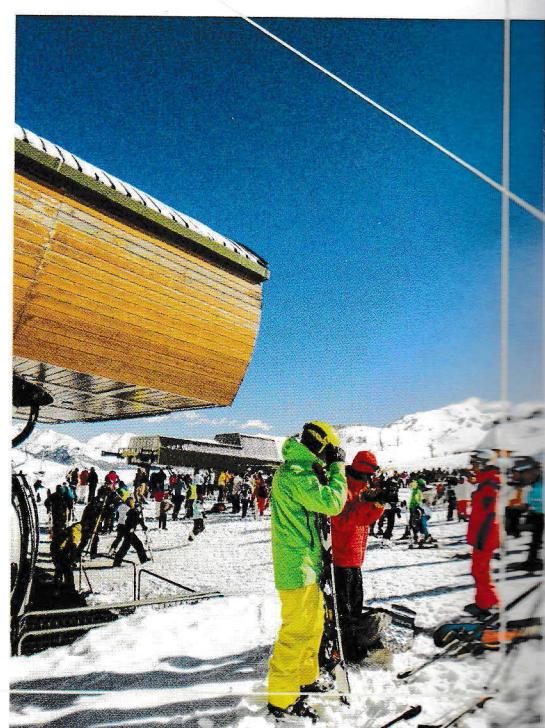
SEASON
2016

*Extreme
ski*

HIT THE COSTA DEL SKI

We won't blame you if you don't automatically associate Spain with skiing but the land of sun and sangria is also an oasis of snow. Make like a Spanish royal and stay in the sophisticated town of Baqueira Beret high in the Pyrenees. From here you can enjoy fabulous piste skiing and acres of untouched ski touring terrain as well as heli-skiing for a fraction of the cost in neighbouring France. Splash the cash you've saved on your heli-skiing at the plush Hotel Val de Neu, raising a glass to Spanish skiing on the Louis Roederer Champagne Terrace.

kalumatravel.co.uk: 01730 260 263



TRAVELLER PROMOTION



ST MORITZ

With its constellation of five-star hotels, opulent restaurants and glamorous bars, St Moritz is a year-round favourite with sybaritic foodies. However, for committed food fans, the indisputable highlight comes each January when local celebrity chef Retho Mathis masterminds the St Moritz Gourmet Festival. Mathis lures a crack squad of global chefs to cook at hotels and restaurants across St Moritz – last year saw great British chefs like Angela Hartnett and Jason Atherton cook up an Alpine storm while this winter's focus will be on Japan's finest cooks.

scottdunn.com; 020 3642 9060; stmoritz-gourmetfestival.ch



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
SKIING AT ÅRE IS A PASSION
FOR SWEDES; DISH AT THE
ST MORITZ GOURMET
FESTIVAL; ICE DRIVING
IN ÅRE, SWEDEN; THE
IDYLLIC SETTING OF
GSTAAD; COURMAYEUR

BEST FOR WINTER WONDERLAND PERFECTION

ÅRE

Located just south of the Arctic Circle, Åre (pronounced 'aura') is a quintessential winter wonderland. A cluster of gem-coloured wooden buildings housing Scandi-chic hotels, restaurants, shops and bars, the town sits on the shores of the frozen Åresjön lake and at the foot of gently sweeping mountains. The Swedes are used to long winters, so you can expect great skiing as well as husky sledding, ice driving, snow shoeing, ice fishing, tobogganing, snow kiting, zip-lining and more (including moose kissing). skisafari.com; 01273 224 060



GSTAAD

Gstaad has been the winter home of the world's jet set with residents including Grace Kelly, Sir Roger Moore and Roman Polanski. However, Gstaad's beauty extends beyond its locals. The town's setting in a valley encircled by mountains is chocolate box perfection; there's skiing on five separate mountains, lost-in-time Alpine villages sprinkled around them, and fairy light-bestrewn streets lined with designer boutiques. camelsnow.com; 020 8123 2859



BEST FOR FOODIES COURMAYEUR

Food and skiing is a classic combo: even if you don't burn off an entire fondue in one run, just keeping warm in the mountains burns calories, right? Skiing gourmets have long flocked to Courmayeur, a charming village on the Italian side of Mont Blanc where mountain restaurants outnumber lifts. But the culinary stakes have been raised with the annual Mountain Gourmet Ski Experience (January 2016) where foodie stars Heston Blumenthal, Marcus Wareing and Sat Bains whip up gastronomic wonders served with dollops of fun and a side of skiing. momentumski.com; 020 7371 9111

SKI
SEASON
2016

What
resort suits
you



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



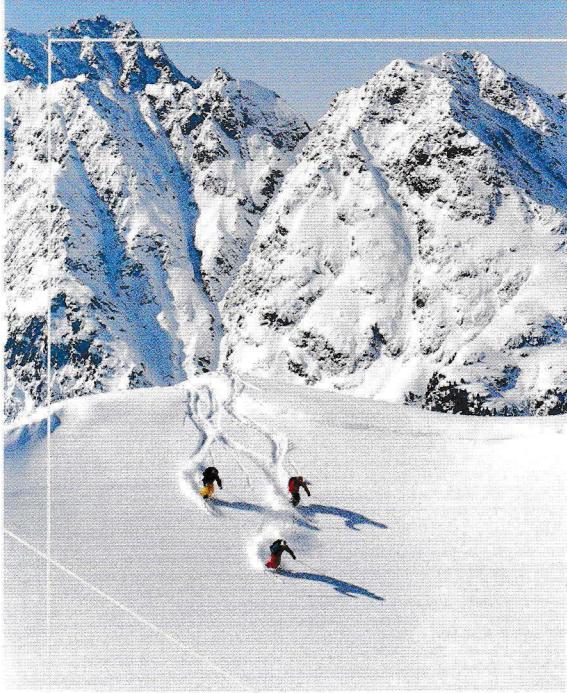
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7.

1. ICEBREAKER LONG SLEEVE CREWE, £70.00, NATURESHOP.CO.UK 2. STEFANO RICCI SKI GOOGLES, £199, AVAILABLE AT HARRODS 3. SHEARLING INSOLES, £18, HUNTERBOOTS.COM 4. NORRIS FIELD BOOTS, £100, HUNTERBOOTS.COM 5. WHEELED BAG, £170.00, OSPREYEUROPE.COM 6. WOOL MIX JUMPER, £595, PRINGLESCLANLD.COM 7. MENS SUPER MOJO JACKET, £319, PERFECTMOMENT.COM

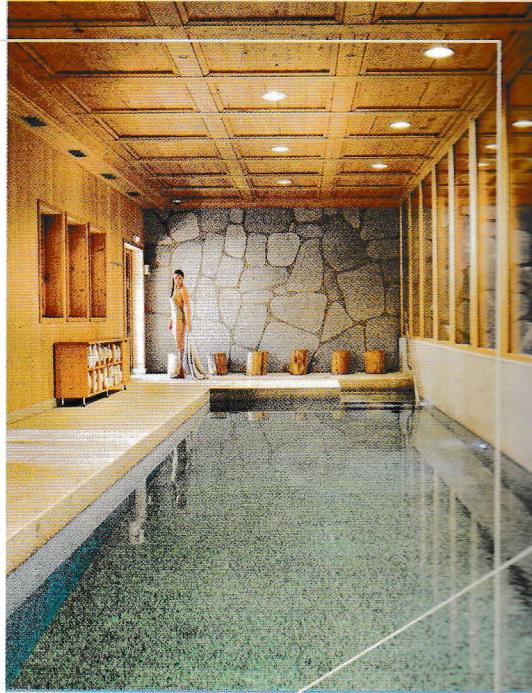
TRAVELLER PROMOTION



BEST FOR SPA LOVERS PURE ALTITUDE SPA

The home of France's first mountain spa, Pure Altitude Spa at Les Fermes de Marie, Megève remains one of the best places for an indulgent ski and spa break. After all, it's hard to beat a day's skiing followed by a soak in an outdoor hot tub, restorative massage and nourishing facial. Spa aficionados are spoilt for choice in Megève – we can't decide between the cow shed chic Pure Altitude Spa, with its Edelweiss-rich creams and mineral-infused 'snow crystal' scrubs, and the slick Cinq Mondes spa at Le M de Megève, complete with its quartz sand massage bed.

flexiski.com; 020 8939 0862; slh.com



BEST FOR PARTY GOERS ISCHGL

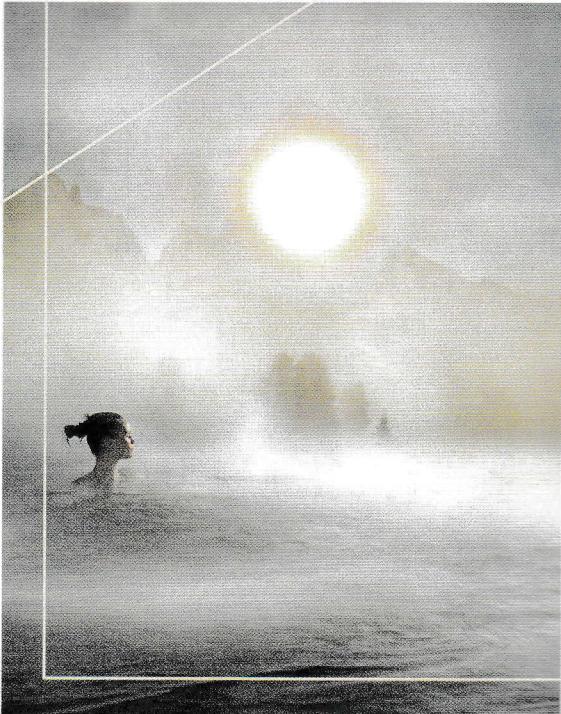
Robbie Williams, RhiRhi, Lionel Ritchie and Kylie have all got their Ischgl groove on over the years. The Austrian resort always bags big music names for its legendary season opening and closing concerts, which are held on the mountain for maximum fun. Even when the slopes aren't echoing to the strains of the stars, the town buzzes to the sound of live street music, countless après-ski bars, pumping clubs and its very own Pacha club.

inghams.co.uk; 01483 345 723; ischgl.com

SKI

SEASON
2016

What
resort suits
you



BEST FOR SPA LOVERS ALPE DI SIUSI

For the ultimate Alpine getaway, head for Alpe di Siusi, Europe's largest high-altitude Alpine meadow. Set in the heart of the Dolomites and peppered with farms, the tranquil plateau is only accessible by cable car. In this rural idyll, you'll find 12 chalets that make up Adler Mountain Lodge, which comprises rooms, self-contained chalets, a restaurant and superb spa. Enjoy blissful treatments that feature local ingredients like arnica, stone pine, mountain salt, honey and hay; watch the spires of the Dolomites blush pink at sunset from the sauna; and contemplate the stars through the glass ceiling of the relaxation room.

scottdunn.com; 020 3642 9060;
adler-lodge.com

