

Life & Arts



Modernist skiing
Alpine resorts for the design-conscious
Travel Page 9



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This season's hot new Alpine addresses

Saunas, squash courts and a slide to the wine cellar

Chalet Grande Corniche, Les Gets, France
Luxury Alpine chalets seem to be engaged in an arms race to find ever more eye-catching facilities. The Grande Corniche, which sleeps 12, complements the now "standard" offerings (outdoor hot tub, designer furnishings, gourmet cuisine and chauffeur-driven 4x4) with quirky extras such as a slide you can zoom down from the fourth-floor bar to the wine cellar on the lower ground floor; a snooker table that converts into a dining table for 22; and a glass sauna with sweeping views.
From €14,500 per week, www.consensioholidays.co.uk

Chalet Edelweiss and La Folie Blanche, Courchevel, France
Not to be outdone, the sev-

en-floor Chalet Edelweiss in Courchevel features eight bedrooms, a spectacular spiral staircase, state-of-the-art gym, waterfall pool, cinema and a nightclub capable of accommodating more than 100 people.
From €100,000 per week; www.summitretreats.com
In Courchevel Le Praz, another newcomer, the four-bedroom Folie Blanche is also making waves with its designer interiors and a unique selling point: a private squash court beside the pool and Jacuzzi.
From €4,900 per week, www.alpleisure.com

Hotel Chetzeron, Crans-Montana, Switzerland
A locals' favourite since it opened two years ago, the Chetzeron's restaurant is located at 2,112m. This



Designer interiors at La Folie Blanche, Courchevel

month, it opens four sleek bedrooms for guests seeking unparalleled views (from the bath as well as the bed) and guaranteed fresh tracks in the morning. Another 12 rooms will be added next year.
Doubles from £201; www.chetzeron.ch

Chalet Trois Couronnes and Chalet Norte, Verbier, Switzerland
Located above Verbier, Trois Couronnes is more private castle than chalet, with vaulted ceilings, gothic fireplaces and antique wood panelling and carvings. It sleeps 14 and is, in effect, three separate chalets linked by a banqueting hall. It also boasts one of the resort's best spas.
From €51,400 per week; www.ultimateluxurychalets.com
In contrast Chalet Norte, which sleeps 10, features slick, modern design and furnishings, as well as a selection of contemporary art. Best of all is a swim-

ming pool with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the Alps. *From £51,400 per week; www.luxurychaletcollection.com*

El Lodge Ski & Spa Resort, Sierra Nevada, Spain
At last, Sierra Nevada has a hotel that might persuade visitors to stay in the resort rather than retreating to Granada, 40 minutes' drive away. Constructed from Finnish timber and decorated in Nordic style, El Lodge has 20 cosy rooms.
Doubles from €225, www.slh.com

Hotel Le Kaïla, Méribel, France
The 42-room Le Kaïla is Méribel's first five-star hotel. It features contemporary Alpine interiors, a chic restaurant and bar, a spa, and a well-equipped ski shop with direct access to the pistes.
Doubles from €430, www.lekaila.com

Anthony's and Hotel Tannen Hof, St Anton, Austria
Austria's top resort has two smart new hotels this winter. Anthony's, located on the pedestrianised main street, is housed in a modern glass and stone building. It has a pizzeria, steakhouse, café, bar, rooftop spa and ski shop.
Doubles from €180, www.anthonys.at
The freshly-renovated Tannen Hof opens as an intimate five-star hotel with just seven suites, offering all-inclusive packages including transfers and spa treatments.
Doubles from €1,850, www.hottannenhof.net

Gabriella Le Breton

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