

Condé Nast Traveller

DECEMBER 2019

CHASING THE LIGHT

URBAN REBOOTS IN BANGKOK, ANTWERP & NYC

SMART SHOPPING IN MEXICO CITY

THE BEST OF THE PHILIPPINES

THIS YEAR'S BIGGEST BRITISH HOTEL OPENING

A STEALTH NEW EUROPEAN CULTURE HIT

FRANCE'S MOST HUSH-HUSH FOODIE CORNER

WHAT'S TRENDING FOR SKI THIS SEASON

+
**VICTORIA BECKHAM'S
JET-LAG FIXES**

+
**THE EDITORS'
FAVOURITE PUBS**

+
**THE HOTTEST OF
ALL THE HOT DOGS**

WORD OF MOUTH

NEW AND GROUND-BREAKING TRAVEL UPDATES. EDITED BY ERIN FLORIO & TOBY SKINNER

THE SKI SCOOP

A FRESH SEASON BRINGS A COOL CROWD OF ARRIVALS TO THE SLOPES, INCLUDING SMART PLACES TO BED DOWN, IN-THE-KNOW TRIPS AND CLUED-UP WARDROBE SHIFTS

GIAU PASS, THE DOLOMITES, ITALY

PHOTOGRAPH: ERBERHARD G/SO LUXE

THE STAYS

December sees two splashy but very different openings in increasingly smart Val d'Isère: the 41-room **Mademoiselle**, designed with medieval maximalism and a 12,917-square-foot spa by the same group behind the Grimm-grandiose Les Airelles Courchevel; and the rough wood-and-stone **Le Refuge de Solaise**, now France's highest hotel, with 34 rooms in a retired cable-car station elevated at around 8,370ft. Across the Vanoise National Park in Méribel, **Le Coucou** is a whimsical first Alpine foray from Maison Pariente, also responsible for St Tropez's sun-bleached Hôtel Lou Pinet. Paris-New York interior designer Pierre Yovanovitch has fused mid-century style and Savoyard kitsch in the 55 pattern-carpeted rooms and the spa, where a statement pool is surrounded by white archways and teal covers. A similar playfulness can be spied through the portholes of the new 42-room **Mil8** in Avoriaz, the most recent retro addition to the faintly Hitchcockian Alpine ski factory lately beloved by architecture students. Meanwhile, in the old Colorado mining town of Breckenridge, **Gravity Haus** is replicating the adventure-oriented hotel/members' club model that Caldera House in Jackson Hole pioneered last season. Expect to find righteous freeride pros in the recovery studio, *onsen* bath and co-working space. TS



LE REFUGE DE SOLAISE

VAL D'ISERE

Precious-wood skis, POA, **Chanel** (chanel.com). Leather boots, £245, **Russell & Bromley** (russellandbromley.co.uk)



Ski goggles, £275, **Chloé** (chloe.com)



LE COUCOU, MERIBEL



Wool-blend turtleneck, £140, **Michael Kors** (michaelkors.co.uk). Nylon trousers, £950, **Fendi** (fendi.com)