

# BAZZAAR

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# TRAVEL GUIDE 2011

The ultimate round-up of the world's  
chicest hotels, resorts & private hideaways



**BEST FOR SHEER INDULGENCE**  
*Chalet Montana, Val d'Isère, France*

In the ultra-chic Les Carats area at the foot of Bellevard mountain, Montana is about the best of all Val d'Isère chalets, with room for a group of 12 to 15 people to stay in style and wallow in the chalet's beautiful swimming pool and spa. Catering is tailored to order, by arrangement, and might easily include a fireworks party, and champagne and foie gras delivered to your chosen picnic spot on the slopes. If you can tear yourself away from the home comforts, the nightspots and other distractions are in easy walking distance. This resort has been top of the British skier's agenda for a long time, offering reliable snow, great skiing for everyone from knock-kneed novices to fearless couloir fiends, a good social life, and a wealth of chalets from basic to palatial. Seven nights, from £17,500 half board for the whole chalet (sleeps up to 15), with Consensio Holidays (020 3393 0833; [www.consensioholidays.co.uk](http://www.consensioholidays.co.uk)). Short-break prices available on request.



**BEST-KEPT SECRET**  
*Auberge de la Maison, Courmayeur, Italy*

Near the Mont Blanc tunnel's Italian side, the 33-bedroom Auberge de la Maison at Entreves is an exclusive bolthole where high-rollers and fashion moguls relax in understated luxury. The hotel has a small spa and an excellent restaurant full of the treats Valle d'Aosta does well – mushrooms, cheeses, wines and high-octane alco-coffee served in a local *grolla*. For a big night out, Maison Vieille on the slopes above Courmayeur is the only choice. It's a rip-roaring rustic mountain restaurant frequented by Tom Cruise, Penélope Cruz and Heston Blumenthal. Giacomo arranges transport by snowmobile and lays on a spread of antipasti, pasta and grilled meats, followed by music of your choice. Heli-skiing and guided skiing can be arranged. From about £110 a room a night B&B, with Momentum (020 7371 9111; [www.momentum.uk.com](http://www.momentum.uk.com)).



**BEST FOR AUTHENTIC ALPS**  
*The River House, Andermatt, Switzerland*

The idea for River House was an upscale bed and breakfast based on the North American model, according to Sarah Keller, who, with her husband, has turned a creaky old house in the middle of Andermatt into one of Switzerland's coolest small design hotels. There are eight bedrooms, individually themed with flair and eco-sensitivity, plus, after converting the old pharmacy next-door, an excellent restaurant and bar. The rural village is about to be transformed by five-star hotels, villas, a golf course and new ski lifts. For the moment, most of the local skiing is challenging, but there are some easy pistes, which can be reached by train. The River House (+41 41 887 0025; [www.theriverhouse.ch](http://www.theriverhouse.ch)), from about £90 a person a night B&B.

