

# Escape cover story

# Snow place like home



**1. All change in Arc 1800**  
The base area of Arc 1800 is undergoing serious redevelopment in an attempt to increase its already considerable appeal for families and beginners. The centrepiece of this new activity zone is a 3,800m<sup>2</sup> aquatic centre with breathtaking views of Mont Blanc but it will also include a luge track, freestyle park and dedicated beginners' area.  
● [lesarcs.com](http://lesarcs.com)

Fans of the white stuff rejoice! Ski season is nearly upon us and there are some cool new places to play, says **Fraser Wilkin**

just one hour from Geneva, where the old Espace Montjoux restaurant will be transformed into a huge outdoor bar and dance-floor. The venue may be new but the format remains familiar, with lounge-style music during restaurant hours followed by a cabaret show and full-on party with dancing on tables.  
● [lafoliedouce.com](http://lafoliedouce.com)



**2. Madness in Megève**  
It all started in Val d'Isère but, seven years on, France's iconic après-ski extravaganza, La Folie Douce (sweet madness), is as popular as ever. The latest venue is upmarket Megève,



**3. Baby Mammoth not extinct after all**  
June Mountain, a scenic 30-minute drive from big brother Mammoth in California's Sierra Nevada, is to reopen following a two-year closure. Best suited to families, it will offer 35 trails and expanded beginner terrain parks.  
● [junemountain.com](http://junemountain.com)



**4. Eastern promise**  
South Korea is the new hot – or should that be cold? – spot for Ski Safari this season. It may not be the most obvious skiing location but, as host of the 2018 Winter Olympics, the region clearly has plenty to offer. Yongpyong is the country's original resort and will host most of the alpine action. Nearby Phoenix Park is better geared up for families and offers tubing and night-skiing. Either way, you can stop over in South Korea's cosmopolitan capital, Seoul, or even combine your trip with a few days in Niseko, powder capital of Japan's Hokkaido island.  
● *14-night Asian safari to Yongpyong, Seoul and Niseko from £1,970 per person inc flights and transfers, skisafari.com*



**5. Park City becomes Epic**  
Park City, Utah, has been bought by Vail Resorts for a cool \$182.5million (in cash!). By doing so it becomes the latest resort to join the Epic Pass, which includes many of the US's biggest ski venues. It also entitles you to five consecutive days in

Verbier (Switzerland), the Les Trois Vallées (Three Valleys, France) and even Niseko (Japan). Plans are also under way for Park City to link to neighbouring The Canyons (also owned by Vail Resorts) thus creating the largest ski area in the US.  
● [parkcity.com](http://parkcity.com)

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**Did you know?**

People have been skiing for 5,000 years. Although modern skiing began in Scandinavia, it was first practised in what is now China



7

**8. French fancy in Flaine**

Brand new ski-in, ski-out five-star apartment complex Les Terrasses d'Hélios gives Flaine the edge this winter. These luxe units are modelled on the Amara apartments in Avoriaz but are noticeably cheaper.  
● One-bedroom apartments from £1,023 per week, [skicollection.co.uk](http://skicollection.co.uk)

9

**9. A(nother) glamorous chalet for St Anton**

It doesn't get much cosier than a bar with a log fire and award-winning architects the OFA Group has installed just that in the new Chalet

Eden Rock, which opens this December in Austria's St Anton. The complex is split into three large apartments named Ariane, Kanzi and Zari, which each sleep between six and eight people but guests head down to that cosy bar and communal restaurant to eat together.  
● From £1,299 based on seven-nights chalet board, [supertravel.co.uk](http://supertravel.co.uk)

10

**10. Lech for less**

Best known for its upmarket hotels, Lech in Austria has traditionally been thin on bargains – at least if you wanted to be within walking distance of the centre. This could be about to change, though, as mainstream tour operator Ski Total takes over the four-star Hotel Elisabeth and applies its trusted Chalet Hotel formula, which includes afternoon tea and that all-important wine with your dinner.  
● From £599 per person per week, inc flights, transfers and chalet board, [skitotal.com](http://skitotal.com)

**6. Five-star indulgence in Val d'Isère**

Not so long ago Val d'Isère didn't have any five-star hotels. Now, with the opening of Le Yule it has a whopping six. With an enviable slope-side location, Le Yule has broken away from the traditional Savoyard style to offer a refreshing Scandi-chic look. The hotel has its own ski shop, a sumptuous spa, 'Nuxe', and its own cinema.



● From £1,795 per person per week, inc flights, transfers and half board, [alpineanswers.co.uk](http://alpineanswers.co.uk)

**7. Revamped luxury hotel for Avoriaz**

Avoriaz continues to move upmarket with a change of ownership and complete revamp of its sole luxury hotel, Les Dromonts. Now under control of the Sibuet family, Les Dromonts promises vintage style and modern comfort, boasting two restaurants and a 'pure altitude' spa.  
● From £110 per person per night, inc half board, [en.hoteldesdromonts.com](http://en.hoteldesdromonts.com)

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Guide prices shown are per person per break based on a family of two adults and two children (2-14 years) sharing a partial sea view room at the Shoreline Hotel at Bognor Regis on a room only basis. At least £75 off is a per booking discount and applies to new bookings only for 2014 family breaks. Less than four of you? The £s off discount may be halved. £s off do not apply to two-night breaks or rooms for two. All offers end Tuesday 14 October 2014. All offers are subject to promotional availability, may be withdrawn at any time and cannot be combined with any other offer or internet code except the 5% Premier Club loyalty discount. For full terms and conditions please visit [butlins.com/terms](http://butlins.com/terms). The maximum call charge is 2p per minute from a BT landline. Calls from other networks may vary. Butlins Skyline Limited, 1 Park Lane, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, HP2 4YL. Registered in England No. 0401665.