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EMMA WATSON

THIS IS WHAT
A FEMINIST
LOOKS LIKE



Main Image: Gstaad at dusk. Below left: A room at the Åregården



ÅREGÅRDEN, ÅRE, SWEDEN

Sweden's top ski town, Åre, pulls off a winning combination of cute clapboard restaurants, candlelit cafés, cool bars and skiing for all levels in a beautiful wilderness. To be at the heart of the action, stay at Åregården, where rooms have traditionally painted wooden furniture, hand-embroidered cushions and furry throws, along with mesmerising views over Lake Åre. The atmospheric period dining room is glammed-up for dinners, plus there's a Moroccan-inspired spa and a pint-sized nightclub. Åre's hottest bars are right on the doorstep, too.

Åregården 81, 830 13 Åre; +46 647 178 00; aregarden.se. Doubles from £200, B&B. Norwegian (norwegian.com), flies from London Gatwick to Trondheim (in neighbouring Norway), from £80 return.

HOT WEEKENDS

Snow time

Book a wintry hideaway for a piste-side treat

Sport Hotel Village, Soldeu. Below left: The bar at Sport Hotel



SPORT HOTEL VILLAGE, SOLDEU, ANDORRA

With 300 days of sunshine a year, Andorra is the spiritual home of fair-weather skiers. Perched high in the Pyrenees, this tiny principality is also this winter's ski destination for penny-wise luxury lovers, as it's leaving its cheap and cheerful reputation behind for a more upmarket profile. Ski straight from Soldeu's extensive beginner and intermediate slopes into the plush four-star Sport Hotel Village, which is all old-school glamour with its wood-panelled rooms, chandeliers and expansive terraces. The Sport Wellness Spa Centre is Andorra's best, with pools, saunas and treatments.

Sport Hotel Village, Soldeu; +376 870 550; sporthotelsandorra.co.uk. Doubles from £225, B&B. EasyJet (easyjet.com) flies from London Gatwick to Barcelona (the nearest major airport), from £60 return.



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Avoriaz at sunset.
Above right: Hôtel
des Dromonts

HÔTEL DES DROMONTS, AVORIAZ, FRANCE

We're going out on a limb here, as we haven't managed to sneak a peek at Hôtel des Dromonts before its December opening, but we know it's one of this winter's hottest tickets. Why so confident? Because the iconic 1960s building is being transformed into a boutique hideaway by Maisons & Hôtels Sibuet, who have stylishly renovated 10 resorts in France. Following its overhaul, the ski-in/ski-out hotel will have 34 rooms, two restaurants and a Pure Altitude Spa. The redesign promises to blend rustic chic with 1960s mod: we're thinking *Doctor Zhivago* meets *Austin Powers*.

40 Place des Dromonts, Avoriaz; +33 456 445 700; hoteldesdromonts.com. Doubles from £160, B&B. Swiss (swiss.com) flies from all London airports to Geneva (which is closest), from £62 return.



SAANEWALD LODGE, GSTAAD, SWITZERLAND

There's something magical about arriving at a hotel on a snowmobile, particularly when that hotel is the Saanewald Lodge. You hurtle up a snowy track to reach a clearing in the forest, just large enough to squeeze in the Lodge and its wood-burning hot tub. Standing on the terrace with a warming glass of mulled wine, it's hard to imagine the glitzy boutiques and hotels of Gstaad are just a short ski below you. Proudly channelling its 1960s heritage, the mountain lodge is stuffed with quirky antiques, vintage posters and old wooden skis, but avoids retro excess with a sleek, contemporary bar and dining room. Luxuriate in the spa before cosying up in front of the fire after supper.

Hornbergstrasse 22, Saanenmöser bei Gstaad; +41 33 744 69 69; saanewald-lodge.ch. Doubles from £130, B&B. Swiss (swiss.com) flies from all London airports to Geneva, from £62 return.



Glencoe, Scotland. Above left:
Saanewald Lodge, Gstaad

KINGS HOUSE HOTEL, GLENCOE, SCOTLAND

You don't have to go abroad to reach a winter wonderland: take the Caledonian Sleeper train from Euston in the evening and wake up to an Arctic landscape. Scotland's West Coast is home to one of its finest ski resorts, Glencoe, as well as the Kings House Hotel, built in the 17th century. And, while Glencoe lacks the glamour and scale of European resorts, it does have fabulous nursery slopes and Scotland's steepest pisted run. Similarly, Kings House Hotel may not be super-stylish, but its cosy rooms, hearty meals and warm welcome can't be faulted.

Kings House Hotel, Glencoe, Argyll, Scotland; 01855 851 259; kingshousehotel.co.uk. Doubles from £90, B&B. The Caledonian Sleeper (scotrail.co.uk) costs from £144 return.



Kings House
Hotel, Scotland