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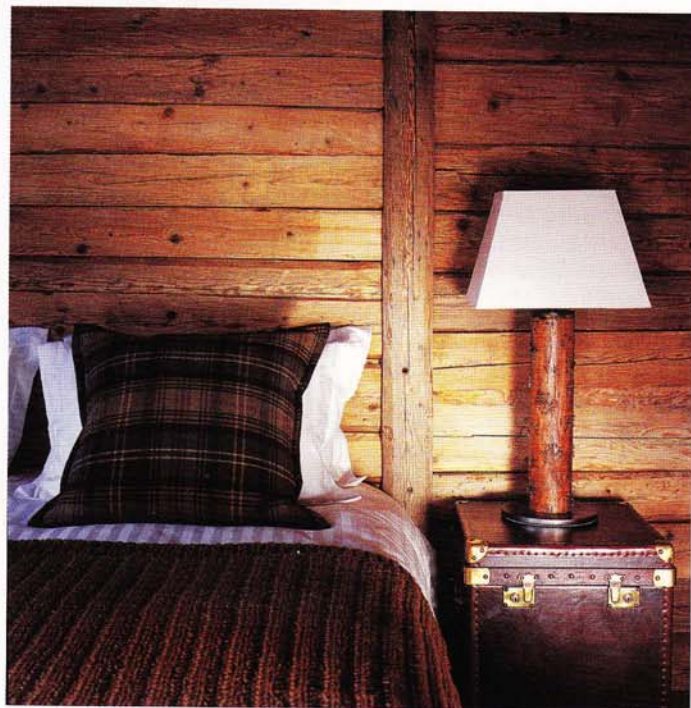
10 GREAT SKI CHALET IN THE ALPS

THESE STYLISH MOUNTAIN DENS ARE SUPPLIED WITH EVERYTHING FROM WINE CELLARS TO MINI-CINEMAS, SPA TREATMENTS TO GOURMET FOOD, AND EVEN A REVOLVING BED. YOU'LL HARDLY WANT TO HIT THE SLOPES. BY **BELINDA ARCHER**



The open-plan living room at Ferme de Moudon, a designer chalet at Les Gets in France; opposite, the ski room





FERME DE MOUDON, LES GETS, FRANCE

The star of one of Channel 4's *Grand Designs Abroad* shows in 2004, Ferme de Moudon set the benchmark for 'designer' Alpine chalets, and continues to do so. Its owner and designer, Nicky Dobree, painstakingly created a mountain home of impeccable taste, from the simple, low-slung cut-out fireplace with logs neatly arranged beside it (don't try to burn them: they are fixed to the wall) to the immaculate white sofas and occasional pieces of African art.

The location is perfect, too: the chalet sits apart from other buildings in woods near the end of a quiet track, and the views through the vast windows of the main living space are of snowy pines and mountain wilderness.

Although Ferme de Moudon's exterior could pass as that of an understated 17th-century Savoyard farm building, the interior has an instant, dramatic impact. The open-plan ground floor is flooded with light and furnished with expensive, bespoke pieces of furniture and art.

The bedrooms are stunning, especially the master suite, which takes up virtually the whole of the top floor. The detail is meticulous: at mealtimes, there are raffia-tied napkins with little Ferme de Moudon labels; skis and boots are readied in the morning with a piste map, emergency chocolate rations, and sunscreen; the staff are discreet and professional, the Jo Malone toiletries plentiful.

The food and wine are first-class, too. Faultless classic French and Italian dishes emerge from the minimal, open-plan kitchen, and the cellar is stocked with exceptional wines, including Château Margaux and Lafite.

Ferme de Moudon (07957 192826; www.fermedemoudon.com); sleeps 10. From £10,000 per week

SKIING & NIGHTLIFE

Les Gets' slopes form part of the linked Portes du Soleil ski domain, which has 650km of pisted runs. The skiing reaches only 2,010 metres, so the snow is not always the best; but the terrain is fine for beginners and intermediates. Experienced skiers can take the lifts to Avoriaz. Nightlife is more subdued than at nearby Morzine and Avoriaz, but the Dublin Inn in town is lively and the Black Bear is worth a visit for a late-night cocktail. The gloo is the only nightclub, open until 5am.



PHOTOGRAPH: FREDERIC DUCOURT; DAVID MACHET

Above, a timber-clad bedroom at Ferme de Moudon in Les Gets. **Left**, Chalet Cashmere in Megève, **clockwise from top left**: the chalet exterior; the polar-white living room; the Bubble-chair Suite, which has views over the ski slopes from its private balcony; the living room