

## FRESH SNOW NEWS

### RENAISSANCE MASTER

● Setting the tone nicely for the winter ahead, leading Italy specialist Merrion Charles has curated a series of totally private luxury ski itineraries in the Dolomites taking in remote, crowd-free ski routes and hidden hotels, chalets and restaurants – including the brand new 20-bedroom **Locanda degli Artisti** in Val di Fassa by the owners of renowned restaurant Rifugio Fuciade, set to open any day. The hotel will feature a restaurant with a prestigious wine cellar and bedrooms named after different artists and featuring their work (Mario Schifano to Giovanni Segantini). Each has its own wellness area with a sauna or steam room, and offers easy access to the slopes of Arabba and Marmolada, as well as Val Gardena, Val Badia and Cortina. [merrioncharles.com](http://merrioncharles.com)

### THE ASCENT OF K2

● Fans of Courchevel's glossy Le K2 Collection properties may be tempted to relocate to Val d'Isère this winter, as the brand launches the 21-room and suite **Le K2 Chogori** at the base of the pistes in December. The opening represents another feather in Val's luxury cap and a homecoming for the Capezzone family behind the brand, who used to live here. As with its sister properties in Courchevel, Le K2 Chogori will feature an indulgent spa, gourmet restaurant and all-frills service. [lek2chogori.com](http://lek2chogori.com)

### BOHO BEIRUT

● Another art-filled hotel is offering an unexpected ski opportunity. While Lebanon may not have blipped your ski radar, the slopes of the Mount Lebanon range deliver great skiing, and no fewer than five ski resorts sit within an hour's drive from Beirut. The owners of the city's hottest new address, **Arthaus Beirut**, an art-packed 25-room hotel in the boho Gemmayze

district, are as passionate about skiing as they are about art – and will sort out all your gear and introduce you to their favourite ski-touring spots. [arthaus.international](http://arthaus.international)

### BIG IN JAPAN

● Further afield, the best-known of Japan's ski resorts, Niseko, will gain an exclusive Ritz-Carlton Reserve property this month. The 50-room **Higashiyama Niseko Village** hotel will be the first ski destination to make the select Reserve collection. It will offer ski-in/ski-out access to Niseko's extensive ski slopes and backcountry terrain, and showcase the region's distinctive gastronomy, culture and traditions. [ritzcarlton.com](http://ritzcarlton.com)

### GREEN SLOPES

● For something a little different, you can sleep amongst health-giving plants at the **Forsthofgut** hotel in Austria's Saalbach-Hinterglemm-Leogang-Fieberbrunn ski area. The property will now fill your bedroom with handpicked plants known to improve air quality, help battle colds and ease nasal congestion, transforming it into an oxygen-rich oasis. Add a daily signature Immune Boost cocktail, packed with Alpine herbs, and spa treatments such as hay baths and massages with juniper and pine essential oils, to get yourself fighting fit. [forsthofgut.at](http://forsthofgut.at)

### NIGHT ON THE BARE MOUNTAIN

● Finally, for après-ski with a difference, the **Kulm Hotel St Moritz** is upping the ante with its legendary Private Corvatsch Night package. An annual opportunity to commandeer exclusive access to an entire mountain for your party, the Kulm has added a slap-up dinner at the rustic Alpetta mountain hut and bar, complete with private DJ, from 7pm until 2am. [kulm.com](http://kulm.com)



### WINTER WONDERLAND

Clockwise from top: Arthaus Beirut is only an hour from Mount Lebanon's five ski resorts; Alpetta mountain hut in St Moritz, where you can enjoy dinner as part of Kulm Hotel's Corvatsch Night package; the lobby of Ritz-Carlton's Higashiyama Niseko Village hotel in Tokyo; rooms in Austria's Forsthofgut hotel are filled with health-boosting plants; an art-filled room at Locanda degli Artisti; the Goji spa at Le K2 Chogori