

# The London Magazine

Luxury lifestyle, prime property

Inside:  
PEAK SKI  
CHALET  
CHIC

ART  
DECO  
100 YEARS OF  
DESIGN INSPIRATION

Gen Z wish list  
What young homeowners  
really want

Divorce rings  
Jewellery to celebrate  
makeups and breakups

Daniel Mays  
One of London's best  
actors hits the big time

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COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY DWIL



## ON THE COVER

*The Art Deco super prime development **Le Provençal** in Cap d'Antibes took inspiration from **Eltham Palace's** iconic rotunda in south-east London*



# Peak luxury

ROB MCGIBBON DISCOVERS THE DIZZYING ALTITUDE  
OF A SUPER HIGH-END SKIING BREAK IN FRANCE



**GOLD RUN** Opposite, top to bottom: Chalet Machapuchare in Val d'Isère's exclusive Le Crêt; its dramatic double-height living room **This page**, clockwise from top right: The sumptuous accommodation includes seven bedrooms with goose-down duvets and mountainside views; even more epic valley panoramas can be taken in from the open-air terrace's hot tub; meals prepared by an on-site chef is another perk of this ski retreat



**T**o Hindus, Machapuchare mountain in the Himalayas is the sacred home of their god Shiva. Consequently, climbing its majestic 23,000ft "fish-tail" double summit has always been strictly forbidden.

Closer to earth is a chalet named in its honour which you actually can summit if you wish. And it comfortably reaches the peak of luxury and charm, so if you're considering celebrating a special event in serious style, this gem in the French ski resort of Val d'Isère could indeed be heaven sent.

Recently, Chalet Machapuchare was rented by a large multigenerational family group to toast a collection of occasions – 18th and 50th birthdays and a diamond wedding anniversary. But it's no easy climb, financially: it costs £45,800 per week.

That said, you get a lot for your buck. The chalet sleeps 15 in seven stunning bedrooms and all meals and unlimited booze – even endless Veuve Clicquot champagne – are included. You get your own concierge service that effortlessly caters for every whim. Skis and boots are fitted by local hire experts. Oxygène in the comfort of the chalet and chauffeurs are on hand with two executive minibuses. Those agonising walks in ski boots belong to another life.

Set across five storeys, Machapuchare has a small indoor swimming pool, a spa area and gym, as well as a cinema room and the mandatory outdoor Jacuzzi with panoramic

views of the entire valley. It also comes with a staff of eight. Dressed in black, they move around discreetly like Ninja warriors, deftly executing every request, whether it's mixing cocktails or booking a massage.

The cherry on top is your own chef. The young and dynamic Hugo Attou has cooked in Michelin-starred restaurants and he prepares everything to perfection, from a full English breakfast, to a seven course off-piste gastronomic wonder. The cooking tweezers in his breast pocket bears testament to the care he puts into making your meals.

Machapuchare is the brainchild of Yoam Marchand, a ski instructor who was born and bred in Val d'Isère, and his wife, Charlotte Guilhamar, a designer with a beady creative eye. The couple oversaw an 18-month build from a hole in the ground in 2018 to what is here today.

The chalet was voted France's Best Chalet at the World Ski Awards for the second year running and is part of the rarefied portfolio of Purple Ski, the masters in the luxury ski travel business.

"We wanted to create something that's the ultimate in style and comfort, but is also homely and welcoming," says Yoam. Amen to that. If the real Machapuchare in Nepal is sacred, then its elegant namesake in Val d'Isère is truly divine. ■

To book Machapuchare and other luxury Purple Ski chalets visit [purpleski.com](http://purpleski.com). Ski hire from Oxygène, [oxygene.ski](http://oxygene.ski)

## Alpine INSPIRATION



### CHALET DES DRUS, CHAMONIX

This exceptional 600sq m property on a private plot of 3,834sq m offers spectacular views of the Drus and Mont Blanc. With seven bedrooms, it's described as "undoubtedly one of the most beautiful residences offered in Chamonix".

€15m, [savills.com](http://savills.com)



### LOU LOU RESTAURANT, COURCHEVEL

Recently opened, Lou Lou brings Parisian dining chic to the Hôtel Barrière Les Neiges in Courchevel 1850. Offering lively all-day dining – with its famed truffle pizza – over two floors, cocktails and DJ beats on the terrace.

[hotelsbarriere.com](http://hotelsbarriere.com)



### CHALET FLORALIE

Chelsea-based interior designer Juliette Byrne brings her unique flair to this exquisite chalet nestled in the village of St-Martin-de-Belleville in the Three Valleys region. It comprises a chalet sleeping 12 and a penthouse sleeping up to four more, which can be booked separately, except during high season.

[skifloralie.com](http://skifloralie.com)