



# The 50 best ski breaks to book now

From chic new hotels to the best bargains on the slopes, **Tom Chesshyre** and **Ben Clatworthy** have the pick of the trips

## Coollest new hotels

### 1 Taj-I-Mah

Les Arcs 2000, France

It's another exciting year for new hotels in the French Alps and this one stands out for being chic and (quite) cheap. With a spa that has an indoor pool, hot tub, steam room and a "relaxing area with a salt wall" (see-through bricks that

emit healthy negative ions) this will be Les Arcs' first five-star hotel when it opens in December. There will be 48 stylish rooms in earthy colours, with modern art on the walls and unusual coffee tables made from tree-trunk slices. Meanwhile, the restaurant will be overseen by the talented Michelin-starred chef Eric Samson.

**Details** Half-board doubles are from €260 (£230, hotel-tajimah.com)

### 2 Fahrenheit Seven Val Thorens, France

Get a blast of retro Seventies cool at this completely refurbished (and renamed) hotel in Val Thorens, the highest resort in the Alps at 2,300m. Formerly a rather plain Mercure, it's been recast as Fahrenheit Seven by two local families with a passion for design hotels. Rooms are decorated in mustard yellows and charcoal greys, with low-slung beds and hexagonal mirrors. It opens on November 25. Elsewhere in Val Thorens, a new "kids' corner" with a "kids' concierge" is opening at the hip

: Altapura hotel, which has doubles

from £163 room only (altapura.fr).

**Details** B&B doubles are from about £190 (fahrenheitseven.com)

### 3 RockyPop Chamonix, France

Classic arcade games will be free to play in the colourful and fun lounge of this new hotel-cum-hostel, opening in December. There will be table football as well as kiosks serving burgers and pizzas. RockyPop is in the village of Les Houches in Chamonix Valley with 148

bright rooms that sleep 1-12 people.

**Details** A room in a dorm is from €10pp while en suite double rooms are from €120 (rockypop-chamonix.com)

