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The best ski holidays

A guide to this season's best ski holidays, from budget trips to chalets, self-catering apartments, boutique hotels and weekends away.



St Anton, above, has plenty of designer hotels Photo: ALAMY



By Peter Hardy

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Powderhounds

30. Verbier, Switzerland, claims, with some justification, to be the Euro-capital of off-piste. Hotel de Verbier is on the Place Centrale, a five-minute walk from the lift at Medran and a 50m stagger home from the best clubs. The hotel has been completely refurbished for this winter and taken over by Inghams. Stay here and get discounted prices for a five-day skills course with the Warren Smith Ski Academy. £479-£1,149. **Inghams (01483 791111; ingham.co.uk).**

31. Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, dominates North American skiing and snowboarding and is a must on any serious enthusiast's list of world resorts. Snow cover here is consistently good, but don't expect a high number of sunshine days. Chateau Whistler, on the piste at the foot of Blackcomb Mountain, remains one of my favourite resort hotels in the world and prices are actually lower than in most European counterparts. Room only, £1,197-£1,397 in a slopeside room, if booked by November 15. **Ski Independence (0131 516 7148; ski-i.com).**

32. Ste Foy, France, has only four chairlifts and 35km of groomed slopes, but the off-piste opportunities here are nothing short of sensational. Val d'Isère, Tignes, La Rosière, and Les Arcs are all within easy reach too. Chalet La Marquise was new last year. Focal point is the living area with vaulted ceiling, suspended fireplace, and chalet-length windows and terrace. It sleeps 14 and you can book rooms individually or rent the whole chalet. £905-£1,650, excluding travel. **Première-Neige (0131 510 2525; premiere-neige.com).**