



lounge ramp up the decadence factor
Details From £5,300 per week, self-catered for 13 (holidaylettings.co.uk, reference 184566)

Best for boutique hotel style

4 Chalet du Vallon
 Méribel, France

If you want a chalet that feels like your very own private hotel (and are willing to splurge), du Vallon comes with everything from daily newspapers and a film library to champagne and canapés each evening and a dedicated driver and chef. It's a wonderfully light, airy chalet that's just two minutes' walk from the Golf chairlifts, which head up to the Three Valleys. Luxurious without being ostentatious, it's a good choice for families.

Details From £7,889 per week, fully catered for eight in four bedrooms (07518 582147, averycrestchalets.com)

Best for ski in, ski out

5 Chalet le Vieux Bisse
 Crans Montana, Switzerland

The X-factor with le Vieux Bisse is that you can ski straight from the chalet to Les Violettes lift station, which links to the Cry d'Er area. The house itself is a contemporary space that offers serious comfort without being intimidating if you have kids in tow. Whitewashed walls, thick fake-fur throws and local wood used for everything from lampstands to the dining table creates a pleasingly cosy feel.

Details From £3,427, self-catered for ten in five bedrooms (0845 618 2205, akvillas.com)

Best for peace and quiet

6 Forest Chalet

Geilo, Norway

New for 2014, this traditional Scandi cabin is surrounded by tranquil woodland, although Geilo's well-groomed pistes are just a five-minute walk away. Forest is furnished in traditional log-cabin style and it has a spacious living area with an open fire and four cosy bedrooms. Geilo is a fantastic family resort, with its wide, quiet pistes and a pretty village with a smattering of cafes and bars.

Details From £439pp per week, including flights and full board, for eight (020 8939 0726, crystalski.co.uk)

Best off the beaten track

7 Chalet Tux Diamond

Lanersbach, Austria

If you don't want to stay in a big resort, Lanersbach — a classic Tyrolean village — is a great choice. Owners Tim and Sally are on hand to offer help with everything from making restaurant bookings to tips on the best pistes nearby; the Eggalm lift opposite the house connects with the Mayrhofen ski area. The house is light and modern, with five spacious bedrooms (two en suite), a main bathroom with sunken corner bath and double shower, a state-of-the-art kitchen and a huge south-facing balcony for sunny afternoons.

Details From £2,210 per week, self-catered, for ten (homeaway.co.uk, reference 809013)



Best for families with teens

8 Chalet Rimaye
 Chamonix, France

The second lounge at Rimaye has a home cinema and there's wi-fi throughout the chalet, so teens will be happy. Chamonix is a lively resort in terms of après-ski, but the house is a five-minute hop from town, making it easy to leave the post-piste carousing behind. The chalet is classic without being chintzy; a central log fire gives the entire living area a toasty glow, the four bedrooms are spacious and two are en suite.

Details From £2,085 per week, self-catered, for eight (01993 775540, highmountain.co.uk)

Best for partygoers

9 Lodge Danube
 St Anton, Austria

St Anton is Austria's prime resort for a party week, and Lodge Danube is ideal either for a smaller group or part of a larger one — Danube is one of four lodges created from an old sawmill. The decor is pared-down and sleek — lots of exposed brick, dark wood and cream and chocolate furnishings — the four en suite bedrooms come with rainforest showers, underfloor heating and sumptuous beds, while the rooftop sanitarium (sauna/steam room combo) feels deliciously decadent.

Details From £7,840 per week, including flights and transfers, fully-catered, for eight (020 3740 7862, scottsdunn.com)



Best for two families

10 Chalet Marmotte
 Saint Martin de Belleville, Les Trois Vallées, France

Built in 2012, Marmotte is an impressively designed chalet with a double-height lounge on the second floor, giving spectacular views. Ideal for two families, it has a separate suite with main bedroom and triple bunkroom, and two further bedrooms, all with glorious views plus an



outdoor hot-tub and lounging area.
Details From £5,370 per week, fully-catered, for nine (020 7351 6384, sjvillas.co.uk)

Best in Verbier

11 Chalet Rendezvous
 Verbier, Switzerland

New Swiss salary laws mean far fewer companies are offering chalets in Verbier

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