

Zeitschrift: Helvetia : magazine of the Swiss Society of New Zealand
Herausgeber: Swiss Society of New Zealand
Band: 82 (2016)
Heft: [1]

Artikel: Unique hotels : against all boring hotels
Autor: Beskid, Alex
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-944278>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 22.01.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

Unique Hotels

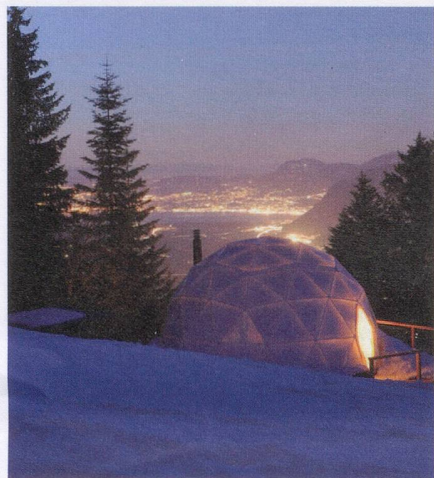
Against all boring Hotels

*Where to stay along the railways on your Tour de Suisse?
www.uniqhotels.com has the answer if you look for a selection of
stunning, completely unusual and exciting hotels!*

WHITEPOD - Future Igloos

Location: Les Cernier

Brand new for winter 2012/13 these futuristic eco pods are nestled in the Alps creating a little igloo village. Your pod is made out of insulating fibre and has a wood-burner for comfort. There



is an en-suite bathroom and super luxurious bedding. Whitepod is part of the eco-tourism movement and aims to be carbon neutral. Each pod is placed on a wooden platform with stilts driven into the ground so there is very little permanent structure involved and the slopes remain in pristine condition. At the centre of the pod village there is a traditional 19th Century wooden chalet for eating and socializing after a hard day on the slope. Whitepod is more than just their domes eco-village. It is a resort and because it aims to be low impact, their location is far away from the tourist throng and concrete spoilers of the mainstream lodges. They offer 7km of ski slopes with private ski lift and other snow activities such as cross-country skiing and husky-driving.

See more at: www.uniqhotels.com/whitepod or www.whitepod.com

THE PROPOSAL ZUERICH

Location: Zürich

There's unique hotels and then there's 'The Proposal'... I really want to stay here. I mean, who wouldn't want to spend the night in a house that is stuffed with a huge inflatable 'fatman'? Staying here hits a spot somewhere between amusement and confusion. When you stay at The Proposal you can choose

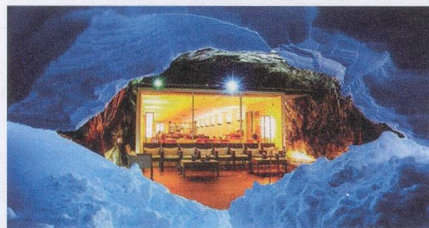


the upstairs bedroom or sleep in a converted van in the front drive - now if that's not unique I don't know what is. After the 'fatman' project, further art installations have appeared at the venue including a piece that filled the house with packing slates. As well as hosting the current art work the hotel features proposals for new projects on which guests can have their say, because, as a guest of the hotel, you automatically join the club where you can help decide what the next installation will be. The hotel is currently looking for a new venue.

See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/the-proposal-zurich#sthash.11H5Q06n.dpuf> or www.theproposal.cc

HOTEL LA CLAUSTRA

Location: Gotthard - Airolo



Forget about simply visiting the Swiss Alps; now you can actually stay in a former army fortress that is nestled within the rocky face of the mountain. La Claustra in Switzerland is a treasure trove of discovery and uniqueness extended in an area of 4000 m2. Here you will find an atmosphere like no other place. Be sure to split your time between soaks in a Jacuzzi bath, meals in a great dining ambiance and views of the pristine greenery and slate rock formations of the Swiss Alps. You can enjoy the scenery from the seasonal pool as well.

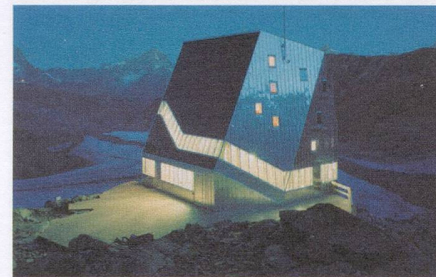
If you are seeking a getaway to accommodations that encompass the natural beauty of Europe and the extraordinary, then La Claustra is the

ideal blend. Great wine, delectable food, and a cozy environment await you - if you are not afraid to stay under ground - all with the allure of being housed in a one-of-a-kind mountain resort!

See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/la-claustra#sthash.NEGj6TKb.dpuf> or www.claustra.ch

THE NEW MONTE ROSA HUT

Location: On the mountain near Zermatt

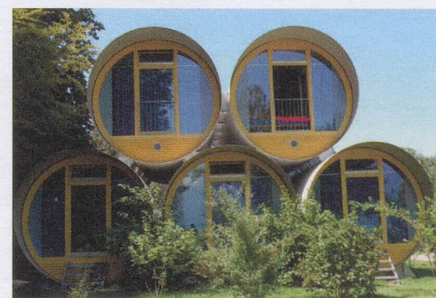


This hut is owned by the Swiss Alpine Authority and was designed by professors and students of architecture and eco-design from Lucerne University and ETH Zurich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology). The crystal-shaped building is designed to make sunlight spirals inside while redistributing thermal body heat from occupants to heat the lodge naturally. It combines a wooden interior with an aluminium and glass shell to reveal amazing views of the Gorner Glacier. Excess energy is stored in valve-regulated lead-acid accumulators, which will provide power in darkness. The water is produced from melting glaciers then collected and stored in a large reservoir 40 metres above the hut. Eventually it will be used as a research station and an example of how energy and resources can be used with maximum efficiency. So, unfortunately you cannot stay there. But I am sure we can both salute the people designing unusual buildings in unique harmony with their environment.

See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/the-new-monte-rosa-hut#sthash.N6EPHdRH.dpuf>

SWISSTUBE - Cylinders of Comfort

Location: Gwatt at Lake Thun



Swisstubes and the attached campsite are located in the shores of Lake

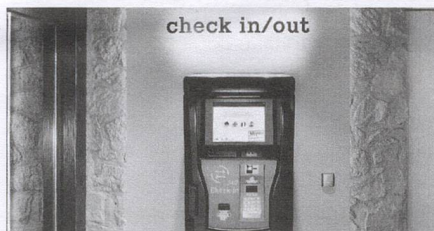
Unique Hotels & AGM details

Thun surrounded by snow-capped mountains. A nearby nature reserve will convince you that all those writers and philosophers who came to this location over the centuries were right – it really is a place of inspiration. The tubes are modern concrete structures and each one is a functional living space. The panoramic windows let in lots of natural light and you sleep in bunks or twin beds. Breakfast is available at the campsite and consists of freshly baked bread and cheese in traditional Swiss style. The tubes are located on the shore of the lake with a lush green sunbathing area on your doorstep. The nearby Bonstetten Park is made for walking, cycling and relaxation. Your evening meal can be taken on-site, at Restaurant Thunersee, or you can take a short trip into the local town, Your Swiss vacation will be unique and comfortable at SwissTubes.

- See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/swisstubes#sthash.q1Mws4cz6.dpuf> or www.swisstubes.ch

MOROSANI FIFTYONE -

Future hotel designs. Location: Davos



Fiftyone is an automatic hotel which means there is no concierge, no receptionist and definitely no yoga teachers. You book your room online and check-in using a computer which ejects an electric keycard. The hotel only provides you with a room which has an LCD TV, high-speed internet and bathroom mirrors with televisions inlaid. The interior blends traditional Alpine wood with modern industrial design. The hotel owner operates another lodging nearby in case the machines become sentient and decide to kidnap you in your room... but don't worry that will probably never happen. There is a breakfast bar opposite the hotel and a room full of vending machines selling coffee, crispbread and fruit to keep you satisfied during your stay. If you want to treat yourself to the spa experience it is available at a sister hotel nearby. Fiftyone is fully serviced and there is even a turndown service available from the friendly android, Phil5000... not really it's actually a human chambermaid.

- See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/morosani-fiftyone#sthash.I5sQRigY.dpuf> or <http://www.morosani.ch>

IGLU DORF

Locations: Davos - Klosters, Engelberg, Zermatt, Gstaad, Stockhorn, Zugspitze



Built from 3000 tonnes of snow in different locations around Switzerland, Germany and Andorra, the igloo hotels feature top-notch ice artistry and a variety of rooms all made from glistening ice and snow. There are family and romantic options. The romantic rooms come with ice-carved tables, champagne and mood lighting. The rooms are equipped with specialist sleeping bags so you remain warm. You can relax in a sauna (in Gstaad and in Davos-Klosters) and open-air whirlpool at 2620m above sea level and admire ice carvings created by international artists. The hotel was created by snowboarder Adrian Gunter who used to build himself little igloos to sleep in so he didn't have to travel back and forth from the best snowboarding slopes. The shelters worked so well, he began building more and eventually opened them as a hotel. To create the igloos a huge inflatable balloon is blown up and covered with snow, the snow freezes and the balloon is removed creating a solid structure around which the outing of the hotel is made and snow and ice-carvers decorate the interior.

- See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/iglu-dorf#sthash.BnyeH2TZ.dpuf> or www.iglu-dorf.ch

HOTEL PALAFITTE

Location: Neuchatel



Hotel Palafitte takes Japanese minimalism and combines it with over-water bungalows from the South Pacific islands and places it all into the Swiss Alps. And not just anywhere in the Swiss Alps, in one of the best spots available in the converted Three Lakes region. Contemporary hardwood

floors and designer furnishing deck the rooms. There is video and music surround sound. You have a private balcony where you can enjoy breakfast watching the sunlight startle the water of the great lake. In ski-season you can enjoy the Alpine piste and any number of mountainside activities available all year round. There are boats and kayaks to play with on the lake and a rich cultural history to explore in the towns and villages.

- See more at: <http://www.uniqhotels.com/hotel-palafitte#sthash.eZPSSAmn.dpuf> or www.palafitte.ch

Happy Travelling & pfuuset guet !
Alex Beskid

Swiss Society AGM 2016 and 60 Years Auckland Swiss Club

SATURDAY 4 JUNE 2016

Meet at the Swiss Farm in Kaukapakapa from 5pm for a casual dinner and a catch up
Cost for dinner: \$15 per person, cash bar

SUNDAY 5 JUNE 2016

10am Cowbell Final at the Swiss Farm in Kaukapakapa

1pm Lunch at the Swiss Farm in Kaukapakapa followed by AGM of the Swiss Society of NZ
Afternoon tea

Dinner & 60 Years Auckland Swiss Club Celebration with Entertainment
Meet from 6pm at the Coatesville Settlers Hall, 4 Mahoenui Valley Rd, Coatesville, Auckland 0793

Dinner at 7pm
Cost: \$45 per person, cash bar

MONDAY 6 JUNE 2016

Have a safe journey back home

Accommodation options:
(try booking Motels around Albany)

<http://www.albanyoak.co.nz/main.php>
<http://www.albanyrosedalemotel.co.nz>
<http://albanyhotel.co.nz/rates>

or there are more options available on the North Shore