

£150
A NIGHT

NIEDERMAIRHOF, SOUTH TYROL

The centuries collide at this intriguing B&B. From one side it looks like a classic old Dolomite farmhouse (which it is, it's been in the Mair family for 200 years), but from the other it appears as if it's growing out of a rocky outcrop thanks to an ultra-contemporary, angular extension. The current owners, Kathrin Mair and Helmulth Mayr, restored the house from its 14th-century foundations, gutting, transforming and salvaging in equal measure to create this charming eight-room retreat. Inside, the clever mix of old and new continues: cables suspending filament bulbs are strung around ancient beams above the stairs; heavy antique wooden wardrobes stand next to 21st-century-design sofas on restored original parquet floors in the individually decorated bedrooms. Those with an interest in modern architecture – or indeed mountaineering – should visit the nearby Messner Mountain Museum. The spaceship-like structure embedded in the summit of Mount Kronplatz was created by Zaha Hadid for Italian mountaineer Reinhold Messner (the first person to climb Everest without supplemental oxygen). And skiers can hop between the Kronplatz, Speikboden and Klausberg ski areas, which have everything from black routes to sled runs. +39 348 247 6761; whitelinehotels.com.
Doubles from about £150



£130
A NIGHT

MIRAMONTE HOTEL, BAD GASTEIN

This funky little place is what happens when a Viennese architect (Ike Ikrath) meets an Alpine hotelier (Evelyn, who grew up in Miramonte's sister property, Haus Hirt, further down the mountainside). Together they have revamped this Sixties building, which overlooks the Gasteiner Valley and the elegant Belle Epoque town of Bad Gastein an hour and a half south of Salzburg. And while there are modern touches, the hotel still retains a sense of its old-world glamour. In the bedrooms, contemporary grey walls are offset by tall Swiss-pine headboards (a nod to chalet style with that know-you-are-in-the-Alps scent), while in the restaurant and on the huge terrace delicate industrial-wire Bertoia chairs are topped with cosy white faux fur. Breakfast, with cold-pressed juices, homemade marmalades, farmhouse bread and Alpine-hut butter, is lazily served until 11.30. And after spending the day on the many slopes around the Gastein ski area or snowshoeing in the magical Hohe Tauern National Park, kick back in a hammock on the deck of one of the Panorama rooms or pop to the Aveda spa for a treatment, some of which use the town's famously radon-rich healing waters. +43 643 425 770; whitelinehotels.com. *Doubles from about £130*