

FORMER ALPES SKI NEWS!

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ALL
THE RESORTS
NEWS

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NORTHERN FRENCH ALPS



Musts in après-ski in 2009

Les Grands Bains du Monêtier

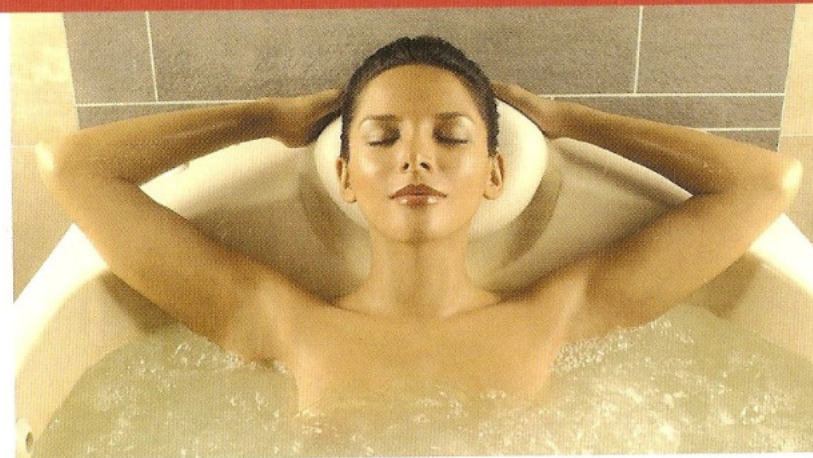
A unique "thermal fun" centre in the French Alps has just opened in the ski resort of Serre Chevalier. Run by Valvital, the number three in spa treatment in France, Les Grands Bains du Monêtier is dedicating an area of more than 4,500 m² to pleasure and relaxation at the entrance to the Les Ecrins national park. For Serre-Chevalier the opening of this establishment marks a new stage in its touristic development. Thanks to this new installation it is providing itself with the means to get away from the 'nothing but skiing' offer, an evolution which is in accordance with the changes taking place as a result

of climate warming. The thermal fun centre, built in conformity with the latest environmental norms, uses natural hot water (47°) from the village of Monêtir-les-Bains. It is split into three areas which contain large interior and external swimming pools, bubbling beds, a musical cave, a hammam, a beauty parlour with body care and massages using essential bio oils. For worn out skiers, we recommend the suitably named Rituel du skieur (€79). In the programme: a Dead Sea mud poultice, modelling of feet, legs and back. Once experienced you are sure to come back for more! ■



Les Granges d'en Haut

If you are looking for an extremely chic address try Les Granges d'en Haut, located in a quiet hamlet of Les Houches, 10 minutes away from Chamonix. It is comprised of 14 luxury chalets each one of an area of 180 m², grouped around a baroque chapel. If the external architectural style of the chalets is inspired by the barns of the neighbouring Le Valais, the interior style is very contemporary. Here the comfort is maximum: hotel service, private sauna in each chalet, swimming pool, cosy lounge, a restaurant and a large spa of 600 m². These last three spaces, from which the view of the L'Aiguille Verte and the L'Aiguille du Midi is spectacular, are open to non-residents. Here is an opportunity to indulge yourself for just a brief moment in the ultimate in luxury and exquisite pleasure. All this of course has a price: €14,000 for the week (breakfast included!), in high season, in this accommodation designed for eight people. ■



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▲ Le Grand Spa des Alpes

In Brides-les-Bains which is both a thermal spa and ski resort of the famous 3 valleys, Le Grand Spa des Alpes, created in 2006, was enlarged last winter. It now occupies 2,100 m² compared to 1,500 m² previously, dedicated to well-being and beauty. This oriental style palace is now equipped with seven extra cabins, an individual sports coaching room, a solarium and an external beach with two heated Jacuzzis. And the

icing on the cake is that it is now open 7 days a week. Tested with success last winter the "jambes légères" (light legs) pass, which is an ideal way to finish a day's skiing, is on the menu for 2009. It comprises two thermal care treatments and free access to the fun area, L'Espace, where its experimental showers, interior Jacuzzis and external hammam are on a self-service basis. ■ SOPHIE CHANARON



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