

BEST WINTER WORKOUTS • AFFORDABLE HELI-SKIING

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Men's Journal

**BUILD
YOUR
LIFE
LIST**

**45 Things
You've Gotta
Try Before
You Die**

**ANTARCTICA:
THE TOUGHEST
MARATHON**

**TIBET:
RUNNING THE
ANGRY RIVER**

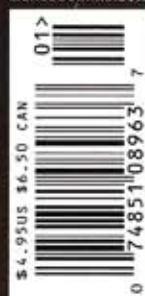
**Big
Money
& Bad
Odds**
OIL COWBOYS
IN AFRICA

**Finding
Steve
Fossett**
INSIDE THE
LARGEST
MANHUNT
EVER

**Outlaw
Racing**
NEW YORK
TO L.A.
IN 31 HOURS

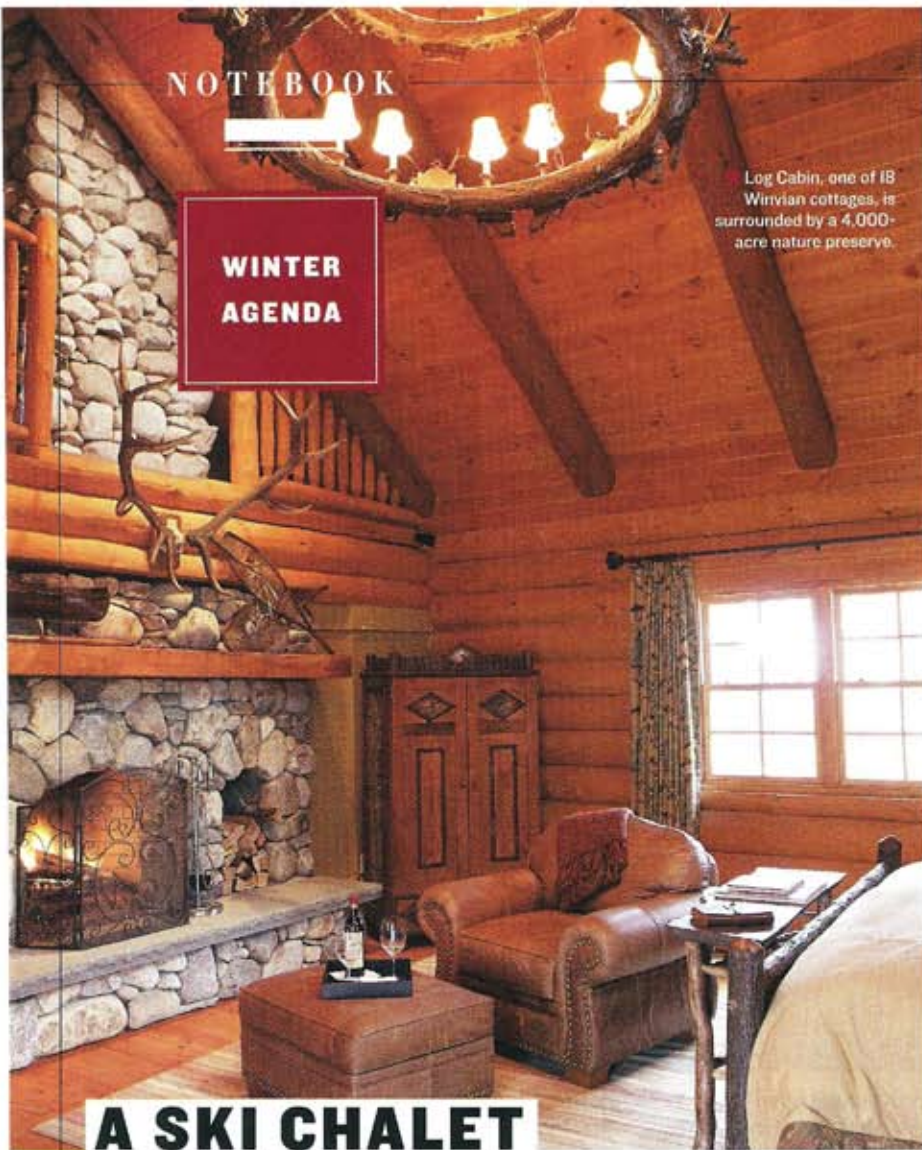
JACK'S RULES
LIVE THE WAY YOU WANT

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WINTER
AGENDA

Log Cabin, one of 18 Winvian cottages, is surrounded by a 4,000-acre nature preserve.



A SKI CHALET TO DREAM ON

An EXQUISITE LODGE in the Berkshires combines log-cabin rustic with modern design, masterfully. by CLAIRE MARTIN

WINVIAN

MORRIS, CONNECTICUT

Thirty American architects from the Northeast were given an assignment: Design the cottage of your dreams. The only criterion was that it pay tribute in some way to the traditions of the state of Connecticut. The top 15 designs became Morris's new Winvian resort, an utterly distinctive collection of mini mountain lodges. "The aesthetic is half fantasy, half traditional," says Heather Smith, managing director and co-founder of Winvian. A waterfall rushes behind your headboard in the Woodlands cottage, while Treehouse is a sprawling two-story structure nestled in the boughs of a maple tree, 35 feet in the air. Music is decked out in 1970s decor, the Helicopter cottage is a restored coast guard chopper with futuristic furniture and a functioning cockpit, and there's a Stonehenge replica in the bathroom of the unit named for Mark Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee*

in *King Arthur's Court*. Every cottage is outfitted with a wood-burning fireplace or stove, a Bose surround-sound stereo system, a flatscreen TV, and a steam shower. If you can bear to leave your room, you'll want to step into a pair of cross-country skis to explore the hotel's 113-acre Berkshire Mountains grounds, dipping in and out of pine groves and gliding over to the 4,000-acre wildlife preserve next door (which adds an additional 35 miles of trails). The Spa, designed by yet another architect, incorporates recycled wood from an old barn, flagstone for a mammoth fireplace, and plenty of glass for the many windows. "The goal was to make the structure disappear into the surrounding woods," says Smith. At the Playground you can get a gym session with a personal trainer, and you may need it after eating in the restaurant, whose chef trained with two of the world's culinary geniuses, Daniel Boulud and Alain Ducasse (from \$1,450 per night, including meals and cocktails; 860-567-9600, winvian.com).

THREE MORE WE LOVE



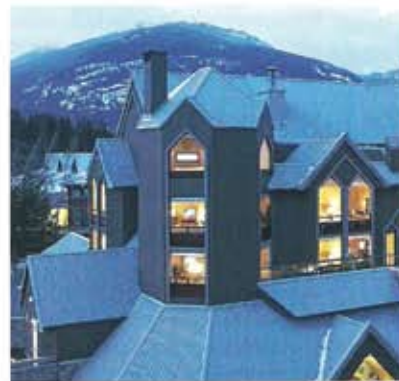
HOTEL K, MOSELLE, FRANCE

Hotel K's minimalist, Japanese-inspired architecture highlights the region's rustic beauty with natural wood floors, an open plan, and soaring windows. Owned by renowned chef Jean-Georges Klein and his wife Nicole, the hotel has access to Natural Parc des Vosges du Nord and the Vosges Mountains (from \$280; relaischateaux.com).



THE OMNIA, ZERMATT, SWITZERLAND

Take a horse-drawn sleigh to the lodge, then an elevator up through the bedrock, and land 150 feet above town at the base of the Matterhorn. Relax by the stone fireplace in your room, or spend some time in the hotel's outdoor hot tub: Here the views of the Matterhorn trump all others (doubles from \$510; 41-27-966-71-71, the-omnia.com).



ADARA HOTEL, WHISTLER, BRITISH COLUMBIA

When you step into your room at the Adara you'll find a faux-mink throw and a floating fireplace. The architectural and aesthetic concept is very sophisticated as well: a blend of British Columbia's landscape and modernist furniture (doubles from \$249; 866-502-3272, adarahotel.com).