# VANITY FAIR

HOLLYWOOD 2017

## *On Travel*

*"I haven't been everywhere, but it's on my list."*
— SUSAN SONTAG

# SOUTH AMERICA

*(On Travel talks Latin)*

## COLOMBIA, BRAZIL, BOLIVIA, ECUADOR *and* ARGENTINA

*By* ALICE B-B, ALEX CUADROS, STEVE KING, PAUL RICHARDSON *and* NICHOLAS SHAKESPEARE

# POLES APART

When your usual Alpine boltholes are looking a little too much like the beaten track, it's time to go off-piste. Weird and wonderful winters start here

*By* GABRIELLA LE BRETON

## DEPLAR FARM, ICELAND

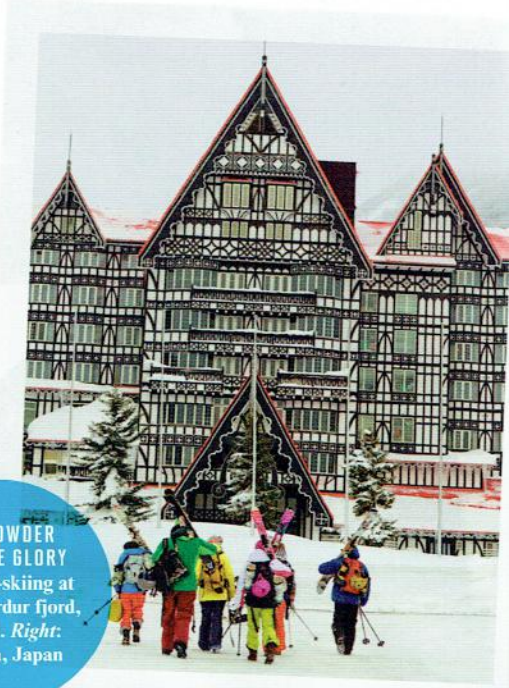
Deplar Farm is a bubble of luxury in Iceland's elemental landscape of snow-filled valleys and meringue mountains on the rugged shores of the Arctic Ocean. Set in the northerly Troll peninsula, the restored sheep farm retains its traditional black-painted timber exterior and grass roof, balancing the minimalist lines of the contemporary spa, 12 bedrooms, cinema, games room and wine cellar within. Glass walls in the spa and dining room capitalize on the mesmerizing views north to Skagafjördur fjord and south to countless peaks, their snow caps burnished by the Arctic sun.

Owned and operated by the US-based Eleven Experience, Deplar Farm is a place of extremes. A squad of mountain guides is poised to take you heli-skiing beneath the midnight sun, ski-touring through pristine valleys, and making first descents of spaghetti-thin *couloirs*. Fancy après-ski in an infinity hot tub above the ocean? Barney and the gang will get the chopper to call at Hofsós hot springs on the way back home. Or take your pick of geothermically heated tubs, flotation tanks, indoor and outdoor swimming pools back at Deplar. Griff, "the kid guy", spoils the children for life, whizzing them up the hills above Deplar with his snowcat, while Alan plots a surprise mulled wine and fireworks party at the old chapel a short snowshoe walk from the farm. ***elevenexperience.com***

## HAKUBA, JAPAN

Skiing in Japan is as much a cultural adventure as it is a startlingly different ski experience to that of Europe or North America. The Japanese Alps are a land of sacred forests, hot-tub-loving monkeys, ornate temples and wasabi farms, all doused in some of the world's finest and softest snow thanks to their proximity to the Sea of Japan. Say goodbye to lunches of bland burgers and lashings of lactose and hello to marbled Wagyu beef, panko-breaded oysters and rich *ramen* broths. Replace rowdy jacuzzis with serene *onsen*—traditional hot-spring baths—and exchange European lift-queue barging with polite offers of assistance from lift operators in dapper uniforms.

The Hakuba Valley is one of Japan's largest and best-known ski areas, encompassing 11 diverse ski resorts that span some 960 hectares of ski terrain. For the true "Japow" experience, look to tiny Cortina, the first Japanese resort



**THE POWDER AND THE GLORY** *Top*: heli-skiing at Skagafjördur fjord, Iceland. *Right*: Cortina, Japan

ELEVEN EXPERIENCE (ICELAND); ISTOCK.COM/POP_JOP (FLAGS); CAMILLA RUTHERFORD (CORTINA)