

TRAVEL NEWS



WITH
KEVIN FLANAGAN

Hotel Jakobwirt – A Ski Haven!

This February, I took my two grandchildren to ski in Westendorf with Topflight. We stayed in the family-friendly 4-Star Hotel Jakobwirt. So what makes the perfect ski-friendly alpine hotel?

Firstly, it has to be warm and comfortable, and the Jakobwirt is both. I was talking to Anton Wurzrainer, the owner, who told me of the massive investments they had made, and it shows.

We stayed in the amazing top floor family deluxe room, with its own heated physio chair and

multi-coloured light display (the kids loved this). It was warm, comfortable, and had every facility you could wish for. Then there is the hearty food and drink – an abundance of both is required after a hard day's skiing, and we were spoilt on both counts.

The Jakobwirt offers additional benefits, including the pool table and the swimming pool. Plus, the steam room and sauna for adults. These really do count for sore muscles and aching limbs after a day on the slopes. But what I most look for in an Alpine ski hotel is the welcome. From the gracious owner Anton, to the ever-attentive Rebeka, the waitress that looked after us at meal time, we were always greeted with a smile.

And you also want your hotel to be close to skiing. The Jakobwirt is right in the heart of Westendorf, and just a couple of minutes' walk from the ski lift. And being in Westendorf you have access to one of the biggest ski areas in the world – the Skiwelt. The Hotel Jakobwirt welcomes you like family and really does become a home from home.

Call +43 5334 6245 or email hotel@jakobwirt.at

2022/23 Ski Adventure

Now is the perfect time to think ahead and make absolutely sure that you don't miss out next ski season. Directski.com's 2022/23 ski holidays are now on sale. There's a range of deals on their many ski holidays in Austria, France, Andorra and Italy.

Check out directski.com



Kevin, Maya and Anton Wurzrainer

Cannes & The Cote D'Azur

Travel with Travel Department to discover some of the best-loved towns and cities of the Côte d'Azur on this over 50s holiday to France. From the opulence of Monte Carlo to the tranquillity of St Paul-de-Vence, this seven-night getaway has something for everyone. There's a day trip to Monaco and another day trip will take you to the medieval town of Grasse and the painter's village of St. Paul-de-Vence. You'll also visit Antibes and Nice, and enjoy some free time to relax and stroll along the beautiful Cannes seafront.

Priced from €899pp, this trip includes flights, transfers, seven nights' accommodation on a B&B basis and expert guide. Departures from 21st April with a selection of dates up to 8th October, 2022.

For more information, see traveldepartment.com/holiday/cannes-the-cote-dazur



Clodagh Dooley's Pick of the Week: Wren Urban Nest

Recently, I was invited to an International Women's Day event at Wren Urban Nest in Dublin, so I decided to combine this with an overnight stay at the hotel. Wren Urban Nest is a stunning new boutique hotel, conveniently located just off Grafton Street and close to bustling Temple Bar. But what makes the hotel truly unique is the fact it is one of Europe's most sustainable hotels and Dublin's first net-zero hotel.

Wren Urban Nest is designed and built using advanced carbon reduction technologies, eliminating the need for fossil fuels and utilising 100% renewable electricity. And throughout the hotel, you'll notice the little steps they make towards sustainability.



Cosy Nest at Wren Urban Nest

Their bedrooms, known as 'cosy nests', are not only comfy and snug, but there are also ethical toiletries in the bathroom and the bedding uses luxurious, ethically produced silk. Their ALT restaurant, with its rustic design, showcases the best in local produce – from organic wine to delicious, expertly crafted dishes using local ingredients.

Wren Urban Nest was also once the location for Andrews Lane Theatre, so to pay homage to its heritage, the hotel occasionally runs various events that tie in with their sustainability ethos. At the International Women's Day event I attended, guests were treated to a series of talks by female entrepreneurs that have sustainability at the heart of their businesses. It was a fascinating event and great to finally be back networking in-person!

Room only rates from €109. For best rates, book direct on wrenhotel.ie. Terms and conditions apply