

sterling
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berlin's swing dance trend

lodges to love
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near chambéry

anthony hopkins
70 and still making waves

the big blue

up close with whales
and dolphins in spain



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© Mark J. Cook

Former ski guide James Wallman knows the 10 best places to sleep in resorts near new Sterling destination Chambéry

Chalet Merlo, Le Hirou



© Mark S. Johnson

Chalet Merlo Le Miroir

Perfect for: out of resort and five-star privacy

Begin your stay at this fabulous chalet with a glass of hibiscus flower champagne as you admire stupendous forest and mountain views, untainted by buildings or people. Sleeping 12, this chalet's rustic, typically Tarentaise-style exterior of reclaimed wood hides a plethora of 21st-century technology, such as under-floor heating and home cinema (with 500 DVD library).

New for this season is a mini-chalet style massage and beauty room with log-burning stove. Popular with guests are the 15-minute helicopter transfer from the airport (from €265 each), and the ski choice. Within 20 minutes' drive of the chalet are Sainte Foy, La Rosière, Val d'Isère, Tignes and Les Arcs.

From €310 per person per night, half-board, including afternoon tea

+33 (0)4 7922 4581, www.chaletmerlo.eu

Le Miroir, France, is 110 km / 1 hour's drive from Chambéry



Fly me there...

Sterling flies to Chambéry from Billund, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Oslo and Stockholm Arlanda. See pages 90-92 or www.sterling.dk for more details