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**Hotel Jungfrau**  
**Wengernalp**  
*Wengernalp, Switzerland*

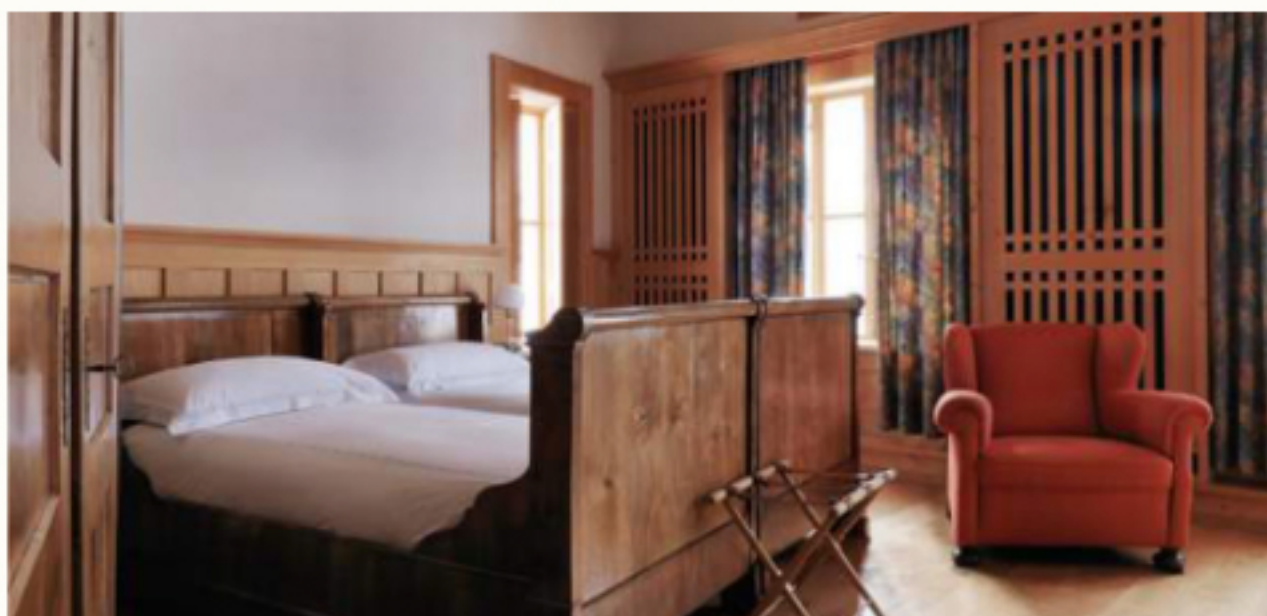
It may be in the middle of nowhere but trains have trundled through the mountain village of Wengernalp since 1893 on their way from Lauterbrunnen to Grindelwald in the Bernese Alps. Illustrious visitors to this 19th-century guesthouse included Mark Twain, Lord Byron, Goethe and Karl Marx. Carefully renovated over the years, it now features 24 one-of-a-kind rooms that are both charmingly historic and contemporary in varying degrees.

The hotel is open to travellers for the winter season only, from mid-December to early spring. The ski slope in front of the hotel makes for a simple descent towards the region's 200km of pistes, while the sunny terrace is a great spot in which to unwind.

Another reason to visit this Alpine refuge is that it has one of the best-stocked wine cellars in the region and an ever-changing five-course menu. The Von Almen family, who have been looking after the hotel since 1865, know how to maintain a healthy balance. *Wengernalp, Berner Oberland*  
 +41 (0)33 855 1622  
[wengernalp.ch](http://wengernalp.ch)

**In numbers**

- 1865 the Von Almen family started operating the hotel
- 24 bedrooms
- 50 covers in the restaurant
- 3 fireplaces



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# How to use this guide

1

## **Monocle 100**

*For recommendations of our favourite hotels*

From seaside to mountaintop and with plenty of fantastic city options to boot, we unveil our top 100 hotels around the world. They're not all new (though plenty are) and don't expect glitzy five-star affairs or big-box chains. We've plumped for the honest, charming and interesting hotels that have offered us a warm welcome, comfy bed and an elevated version of home away from home on our travels.

2

## **Trade secrets**

*For those starting a business or looking to refresh an existing one*

We meet the owners behind the brands we like and the one-offs doing delightful work and breaking new ground. We also head to four hospitality schools and dream up an ideal hotel of our own. Consider this a call to arms for those mulling over a career in hospitality, or some inspiration for those looking to spruce up an old gem.

3

## **Here to stay**

*For lessons from the hotels that made it*

Apartment-sharing apps may have seized some ground from hotels but it's far from the end for the good ones – and just the beginning for others. We show how life has unfolded (and demonstrate why it will continue) in both grandes dames and new arrivals. We talk to those whose lives have taken place in hotels, profile three timeless survivors and see how hotel architecture has mirrored the societies they've hosted. Plus a note on the danger of hasty renovation.

4

## **Eating and drinking**

*For a square meal and something to sip on*

Our list of 25 hotel restaurants and 25 bars worth checking out wherever you are in the world. We meet the F&B folk drawing crowds that aren't even staying the night, creating spaces that are also destinations for locals.