

# **Europe**



## **Best of the Alps Choose** your own adventure in one of these four regions.

#### MATTERHORN

The Draw Located in the Pennine Alps. on the border between Italy and Switzerland, the area around this 14,692-foot-high mountain is known for its rich village life.

#### The Trip **REI Adventures**

leads a trek hetween Grindelwald and Zermatt that will have you hiking up to 11 miles a day and exploring medieval hamlets along the way. rei.com; nine days

from \$4.775.

#### ENGADINE

The Draw This valley in Switzerland's easternmost corner is known for wildflower meadows, Bronze Age ruins, glaciated peaks, and charming inns.

### The Trip

An inn-to-inn tour with Ryder-Walker Alpine Adventures stops at cozy woodpaneled chalets and 17th-century houses. ryder walker.com; seven days from \$3,740.

#### DOLOMITES

The Draw Gastronomy rules in northern Italy's Dolomites. a unesco World Heritage site with dramatic limestone formations. crumbling castles, and Austrianinfluenced cuisine.

#### The Trip On an itinerary from Whole Journeys, the

new travel arm of Whole Foods Market, you'll visit a farm where cheese and yogurt are made and hike past ancient shingleroofed farmhouses. wholejourneys.com;

#### **TYROLEAN** ALPS

#### The Draw

Austria's historyfilled North Tyrol has centuriesold palaces and pristine lakes.

#### The Trip The Wayfarers

offers a walk that stops at the original summer lodge of the Von Trapp family and passes the Imperial Palace of Empress Maria Theresa, the Hapsburgs' only female ruler. thewayfarers.com; seven days from \$3,995.

#### SPECIAL-INTEREST TRIPS



FOR CULTURE MAVENS: IRELAND The Connemara & Galway Bay trip from CW (formerly Country

Walkers) hits classic sites—such as the cliffs of Moher-on lesstouristed paths. You'll also participate in a traditional céilidh dance and share a pint at a pub while taking in a seisiún with fiddlers, cwadventure, com; seven days from \$4,198. 44



#### FOR NATURE LOVERS: THE FRENCH PYRENEES

The 142-acre Can Rigall estate, operated

by ecotourism group Basecamp Explorer, is modeled after a Catalan farmstead, with 11 rustic-chic rooms providing an ideal base for trekking into the Mount Canigou range, basecampexplorer.com; doubles from \$340 per night. 44



FOR FOODIES: ALSACE, FRANCE Bespoke trips from Trufflepig follow the Route des Vins between

Strasbourg and Colmar. Take an eight-mile walk through vineyards to sample Klevener de Heiligenstein (a rare Savagnin Rose), or go on a kitchen tour of the Michelin three-starred Auberge de L'III, in the town of Illhaeusern, trufflepig. com; six days from \$3,000. 4



FOR HISTORY BUFFS: TURKEY Visit the ancient city of Ephesus

and follow the

Silk Road to the cave churches of Cappadocia on Turquoise Coast & Cappadocia from Classic Journeys before spending four days based on a yacht on the Mediterranean Sea, exploring secluded coves. classicjourneys.com; nine days from \$4,695.



