FREQUENT Fliers HOW TO LAND A BETTER SEAT EVERY TIME

TRAVEL + LEISURE

20 EASY WEEKEND GETAWAYS

From Maine to California

EUROPE THIS SUMMER!
EATING IN AMSTERDAM
SECRET SPAIN
ITALY FOR MUSIC LOVERS

travelandleisure.com MAY 2013
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 between 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 wood-paneled chalets and 17th-century houses. ryderwalker.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 Austrian-influenced 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 shingle-roofed farmhouses. wholejourneys.com; seven days from $4,395.

TYROLEAN ALPS
The Draw
Austria’s history-filled North Tyrol has centuries-old 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 less-touristed paths. You'll also participate in a traditional cèilidh dance and share a pint at a pub while taking in a sesiún with fiddlers. cwadventure.com; seven days from $4,198.

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.

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’Ill, in the town of Illhaeusern. trufflepig.com; six days from $3,000.

FOR HISTORY BUDDAS: 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.